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ART BY SOUMEI HOSHINO

STORY BY QUIROSE

VOLUME 5

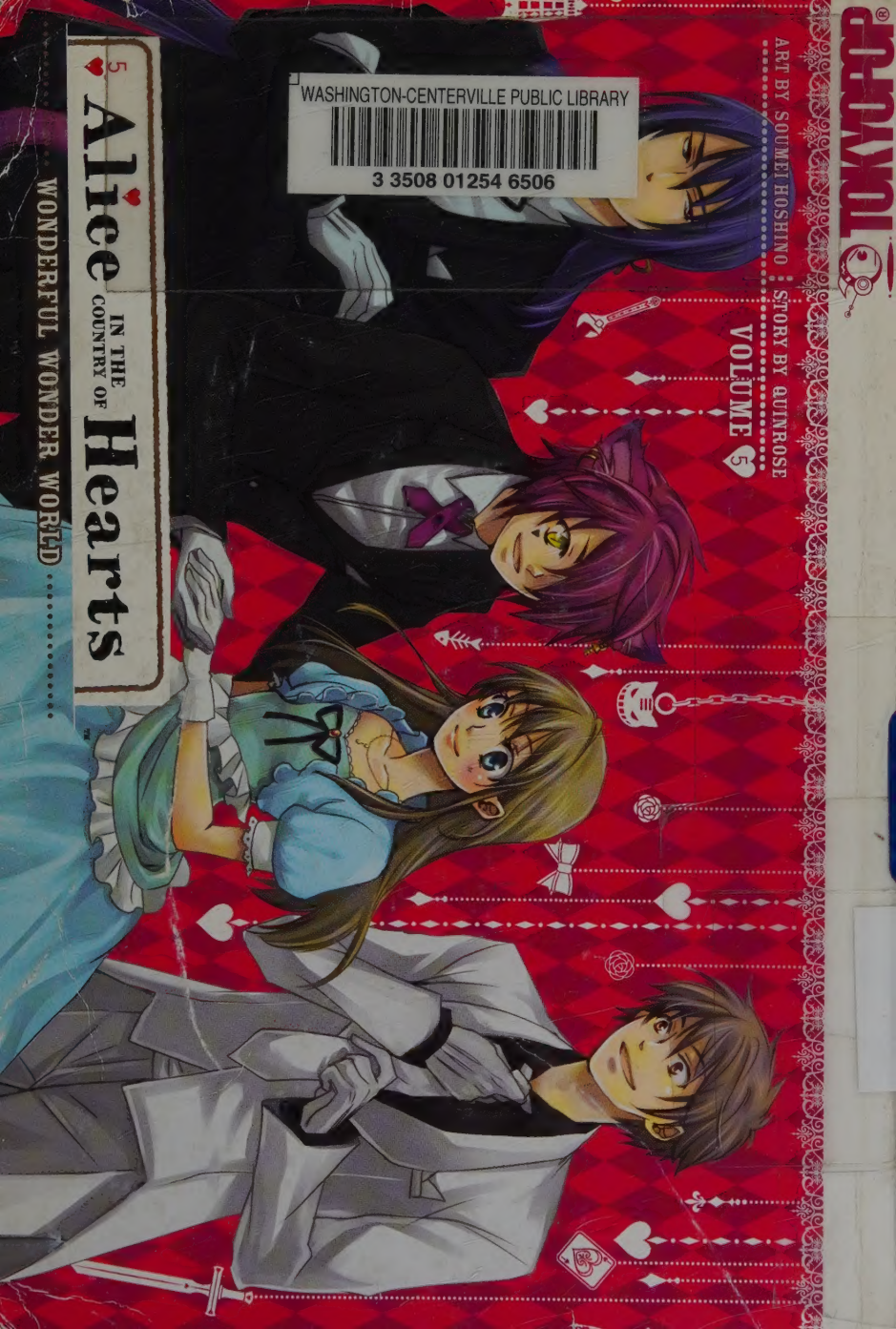
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5
Alice
IN THE
COUNTRY OF
Hearts

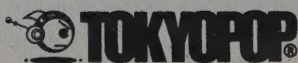
WONDERFUL WONDER WORLD



5 ♥ **Alice** IN THE
COUNTRY OF **Hearts**

Volume 5

Created by
QuinRose X Soumei Hoshino



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Alice in the Country of Hearts

ハートの国のアリス

~ Wonderful Wonder World ~

5

QuinRose



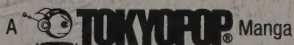
Soumei Hoshino

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♥25

Dance Lesson



ハートの国のアリス

~ Wonderful Wonder World ~



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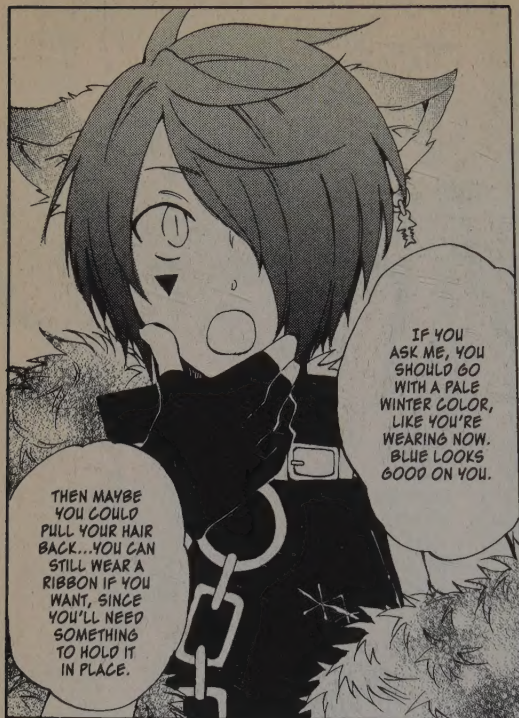
91

♥ 30

Secret Garden

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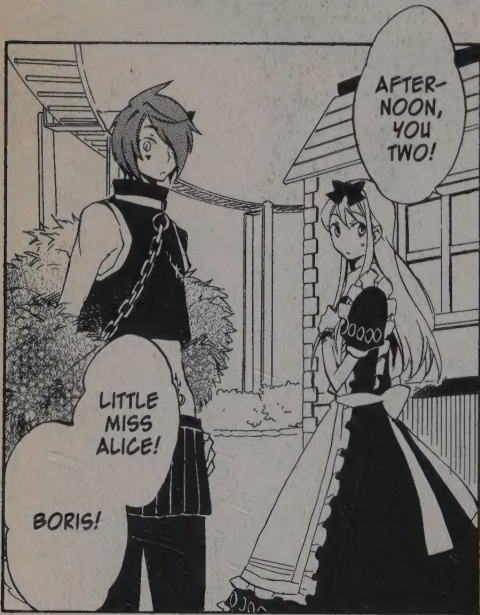
IF YOU
ASK ME, YOU
SHOULD GO
WITH A PALE
WINTER COLOR,
LIKE YOU'RE
WEARING NOW.
BLUE LOOKS
GOOD ON YOU.

THEN MAYBE
YOU COULD
PULL YOUR HAIR
BACK...YOU CAN
STILL WEAR A
RIBBON IF YOU
WANT, SINCE
YOU'LL NEED
SOMETHING
TO HOLD IT
IN PLACE.



DUH.

THE
DRESS
YOU'RE
GONNA
WEAR TO
THE BALL.



AFTER-
NOON,
YOU
TWO!

LITTLE
MISS
ALICE!

BORIS!



W-WAIT A
MINUTE,
BORIS.

I
HAVEN'T
EVEN
DECIDED
TO GO YET.
DON'T--



HAVE
YOU PICKED
OUT YOUR
DRESS YET?

BY
THE WAY,
ALICE.



DRESS?

...HUH?



YOU GOT
YOURSELF
ALL MANGLED
AND NEEDED
ALICE TO PATCH
YOU UP.

GRIN

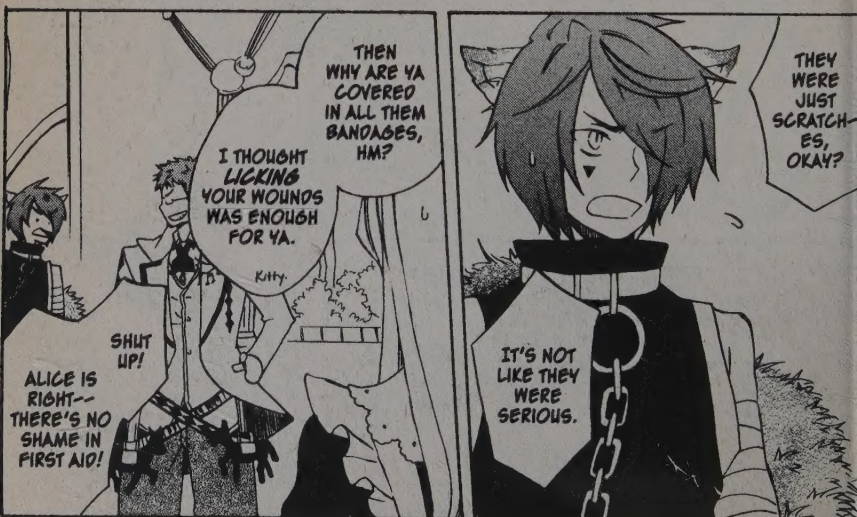
OH...
NOW I
GET IT.



HEY!

PFFT:

SISSY.



THEN
WHY ARE YA
COVERED
IN ALL THEM
BANDAGES,
HM?

I THOUGHT
LICKING
YOUR WOUNDS
WAS ENOUGH
FOR YA.

Kitty.

SHUT
UP!

ALICE IS
RIGHT--
THERE'S NO
SHAME IN
FIRST AID!

THEY
WERE
JUST
SCRATCH-
ES,
OKAY?

IT'S NOT
LIKE THEY
WERE
SERIOUS.

I'm helping
Alice with
her dress.

WE
ALREADY
KNEW THAT,
YOU OLD
FART. GET
WITH THE
TIMES!

WHAT?!

LOOKS
LIKE
THEY'RE
GONNA
THROW
THE BALL
SOON!

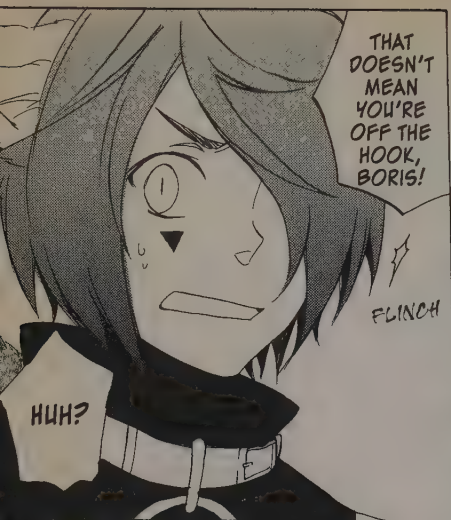
HAVE
I GOT
NEWS
FOR
YA!

HM?

YOU
GOT
HURT
AGAIN?

YOU TOOK
SO LONG TO
COME HOME,
I THOUGHT YOU
HADN'T HEARD
YET...HUH.

Damn.



THAT
DOESN'T
MEAN
YOU'RE
OFF THE
HOOK,
BORIS!

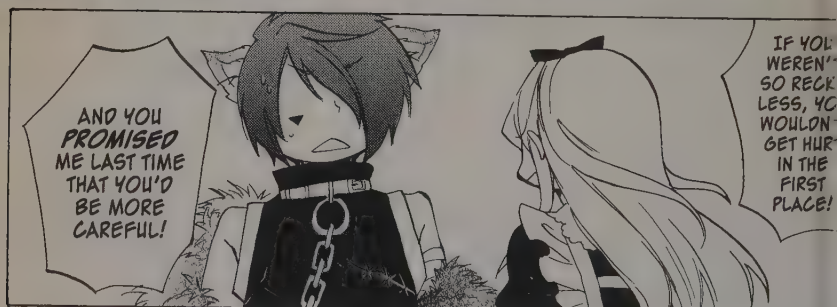
FLINCH

HUH?



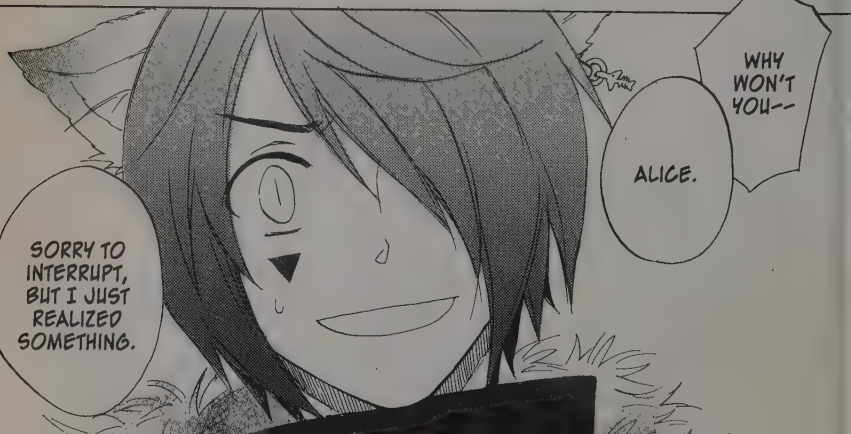
HA
HA!

SHE'S
TOTALLY
MAD AT
YOU.



AND YOU
PROMISED
ME LAST TIME
THAT YOU'D
BE MORE
CAREFUL!

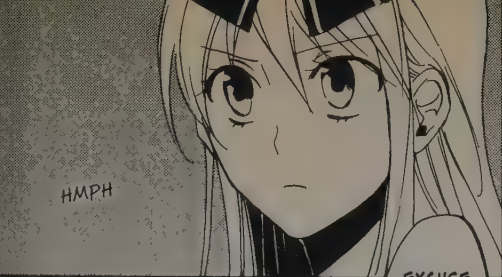
IF YOU
WEREN'T
SO RECK-
LESS, YOU
WOULDN'T
GET HUR-
T IN THE
FIRST PLACE!

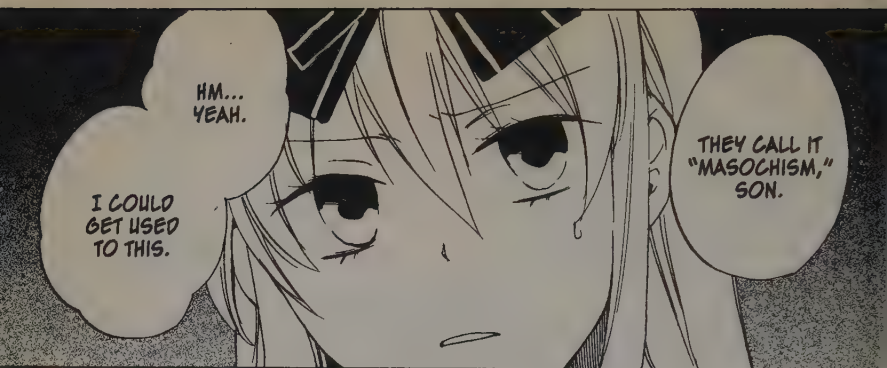


SORRY TO
INTERRUPT,
BUT I JUST
REALIZED
SOMETHING.

ALICE.

WHY
WON'T
YOU--

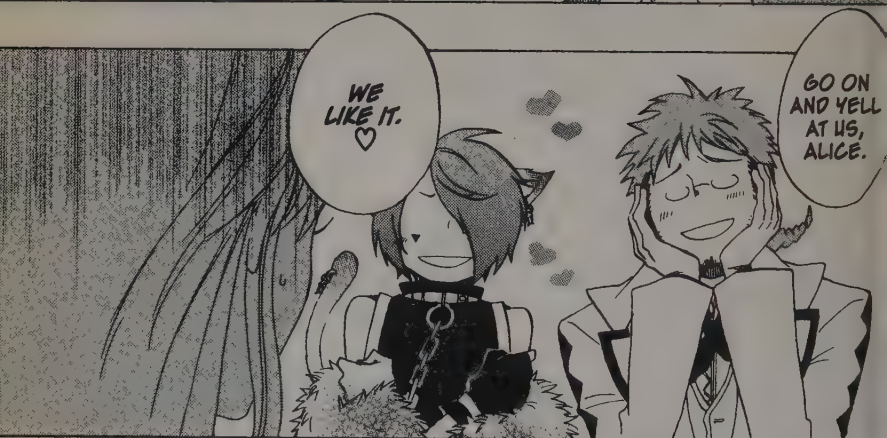




HM...
YEAH.

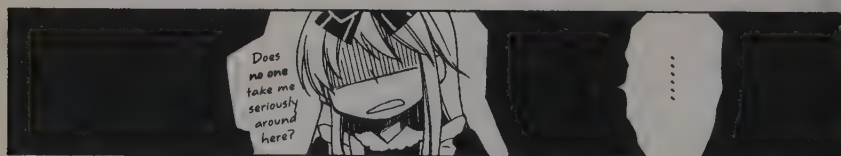
I COULD
GET USED
TO THIS.

THEY CALL IT
"MASOCHISM,"
SON.



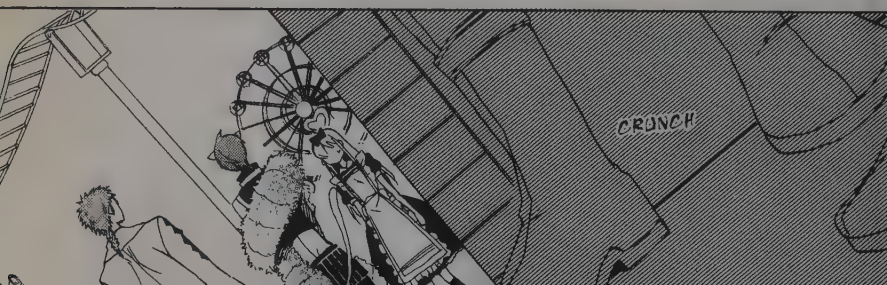
WE
LIKE IT.
♡

GO ON
AND YELL
AT US,
ALICE.



Does
no one
take me
seriously
around
here?

.....



CRUNCH



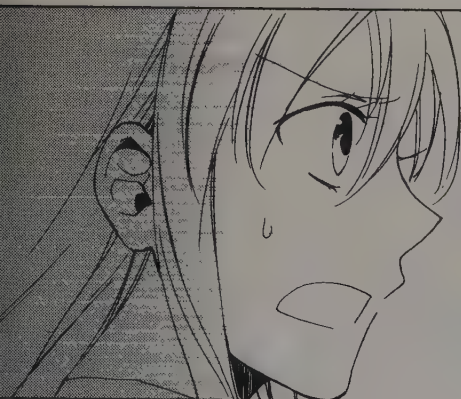
'Cause I kinda like it when you yell at me like this.

'Cause...

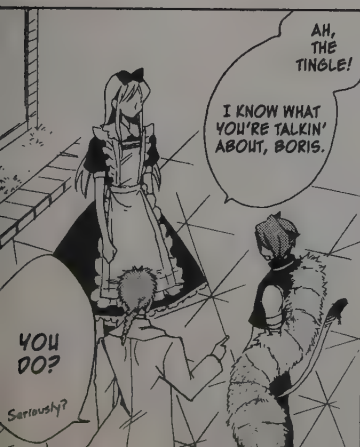


I'M NOT SO SURE I CAN KEEP OUR PROMISE.

WHAT? WHY?!



...ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?



AH, THE TINGLE!

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKIN' ABOUT, BORIS.

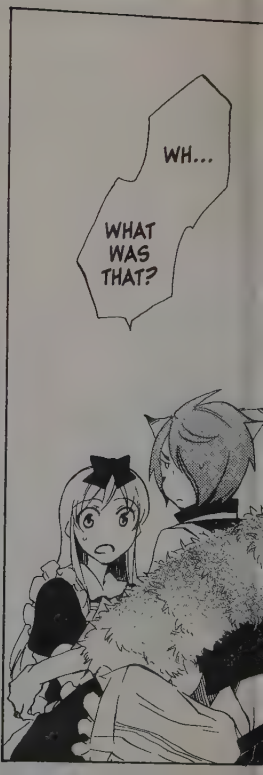
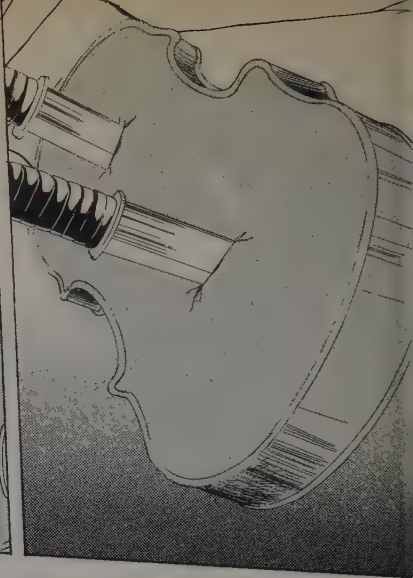
YOU DO?

Seriously?



IT'S KINDA LIKE HOW YOU'RE ALWAYS YELLING AT THE RABBIT.

DOES THAT MAKE HIM... TINGLE LIKE THIS? WOW.



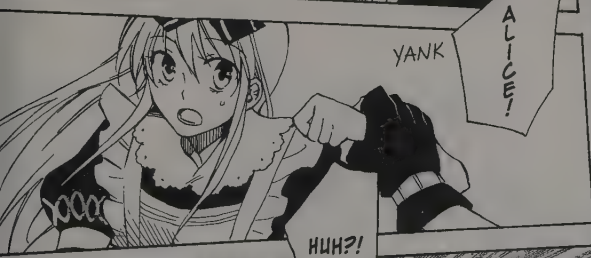


SAAAAAY
BYE-BYE!



?!

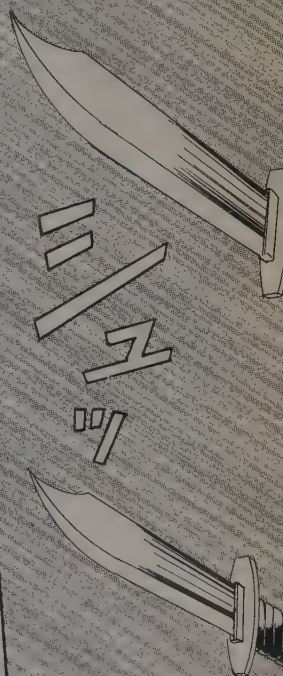
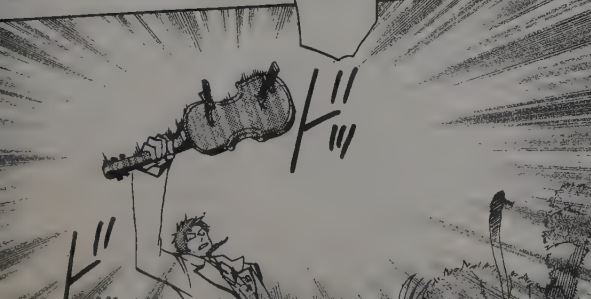
?



YANK

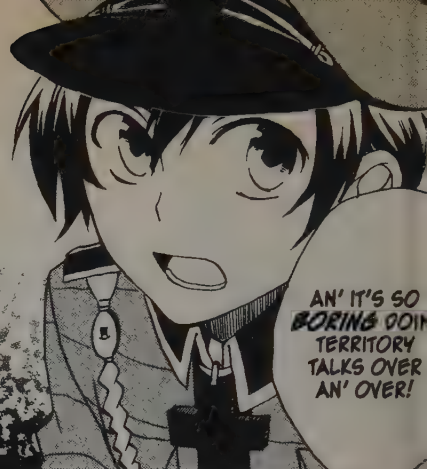
ALICE!

HUH?!

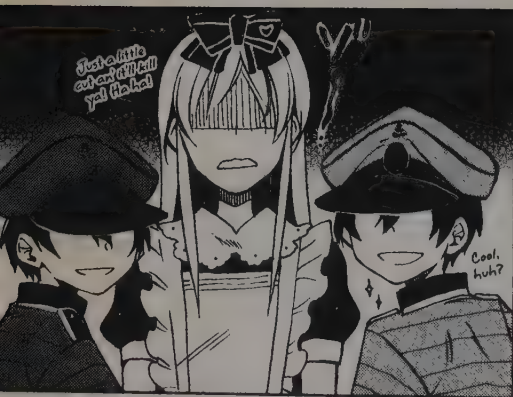




WE JUST
WANTED TO
KILL THE
OWNER
SO IT'D BE
DONE AND
WE COULD
PLAY.

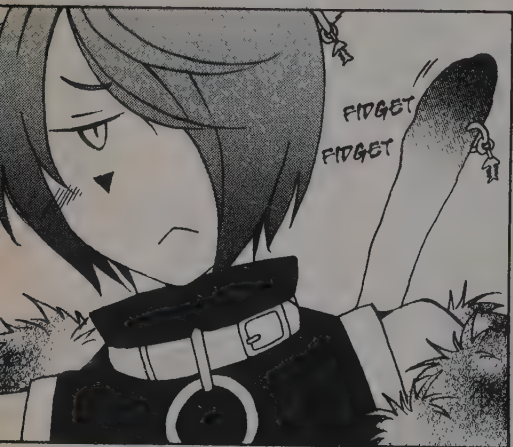


AN' IT'S SO
BORING GOIN'
TERRITORY
TALKS OVER
AN' OVER!

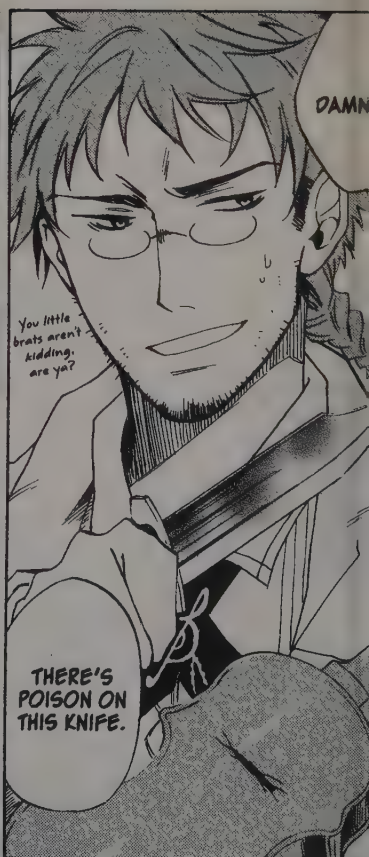


Just a little
cut and I'll kill
ya! Hahaha!

Cool,
huh?



FIDGET
FIDGET



DAMN

You little
brats aren't
kidding,
are ya?

THERE'S
POISON ON
THIS KNIFE.



WHAT
THE HELL
ARE YOU
CHEERING
FOR?



DEE
AND
DUM?

HEY,
IT'S THE
LADY!

THE
LADY'S
HERE!
YAAAA!

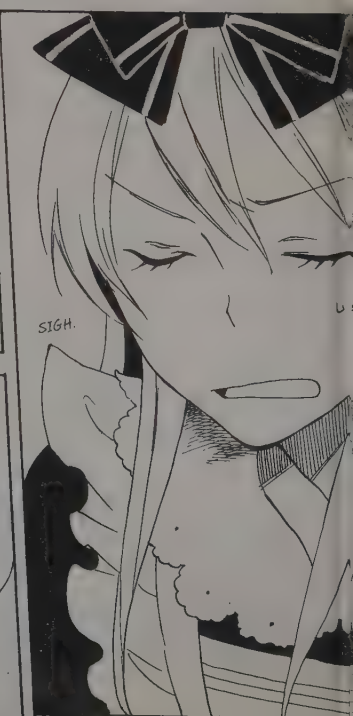
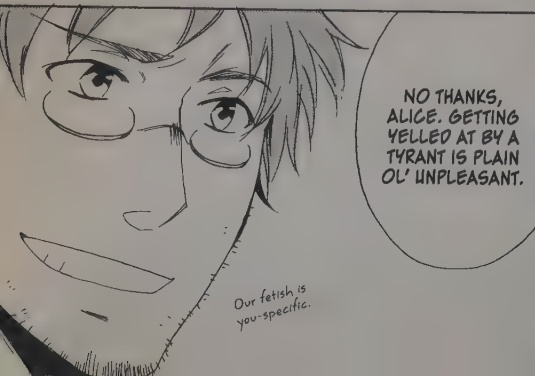
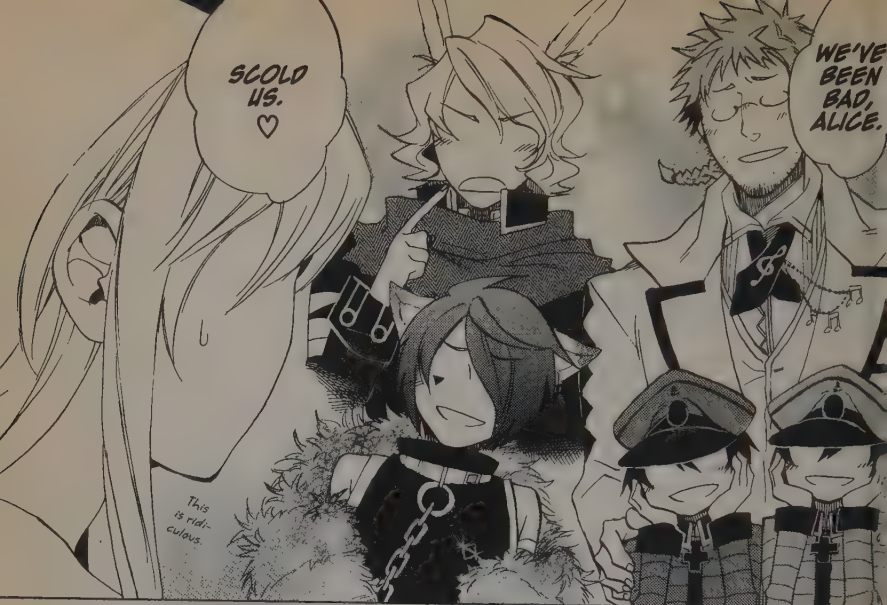


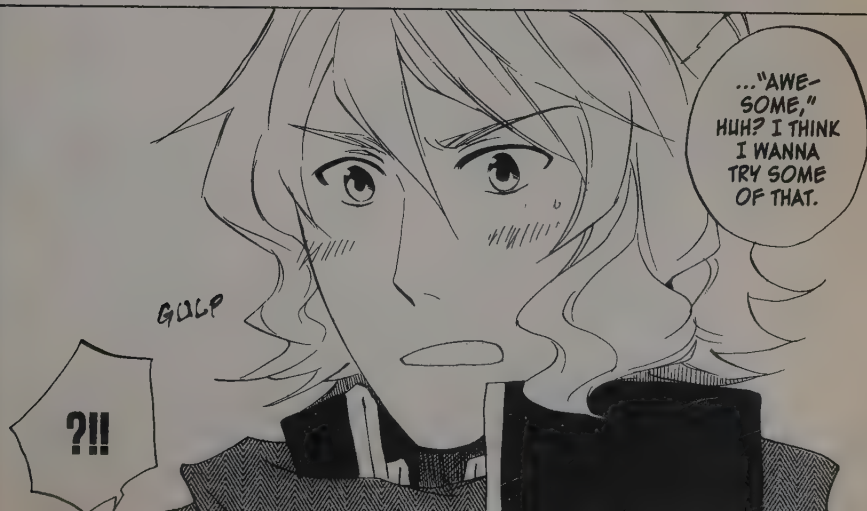
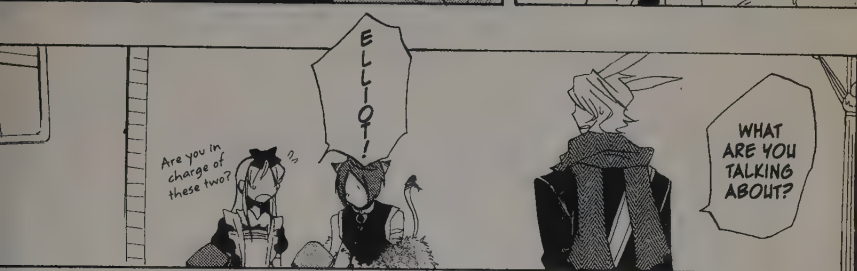
WE
DIDN'T
SEE THE
LADY.

WE CAN'T
HIT WHAT
WE DON'T
SEE,
PISSY
RABBIT.



YOU
COULD'VE
HIT HER, YOU
BRAINDEAD
LITTLE...

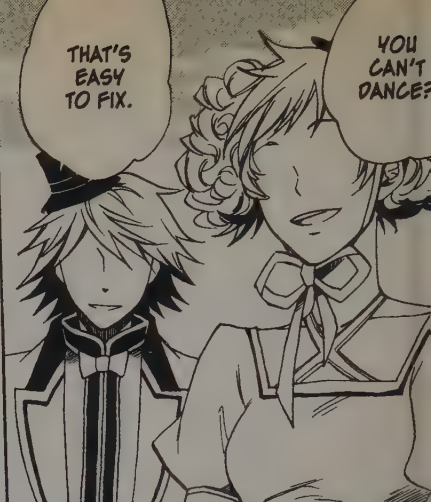






LEAVE IT
TO US,
MISS.

WE CAN TEACH
YOU! WE'RE
ALL GOING
TO THE BALL
AS WELL!



THAT'S
EASY
TO FIX.

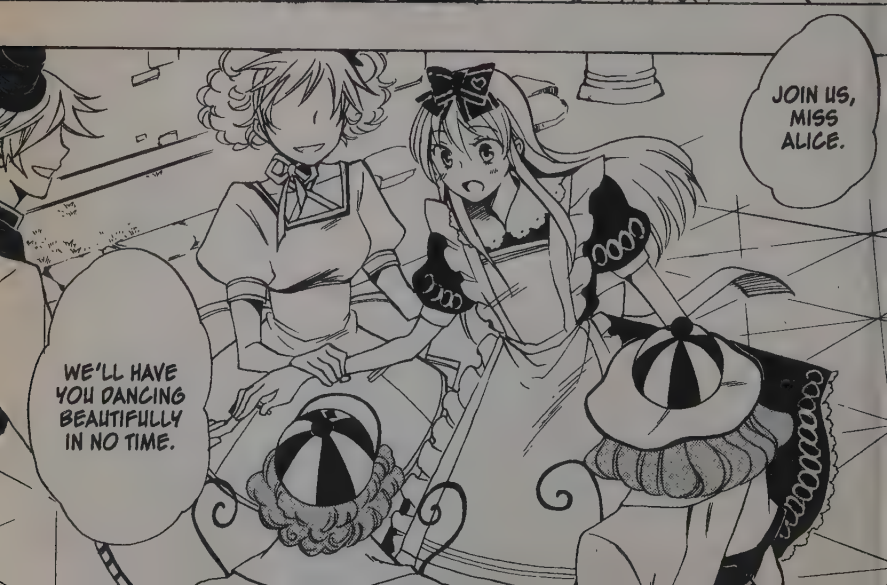
YOU
CAN'T
DANCE?



THE BALL IS A
CHANCE FOR
EVERYONE
TO FORGET
THEIR JOBS
AND DANCE
AS EQUALS.

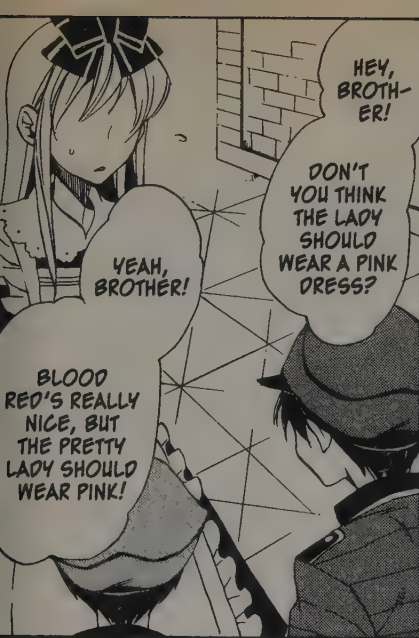
YES.

...YOU
GUYS
ARE
GOING?



JOIN US,
MISS
ALICE.

WE'LL HAVE
YOU DANCING
BEAUTIFULLY
IN NO TIME.

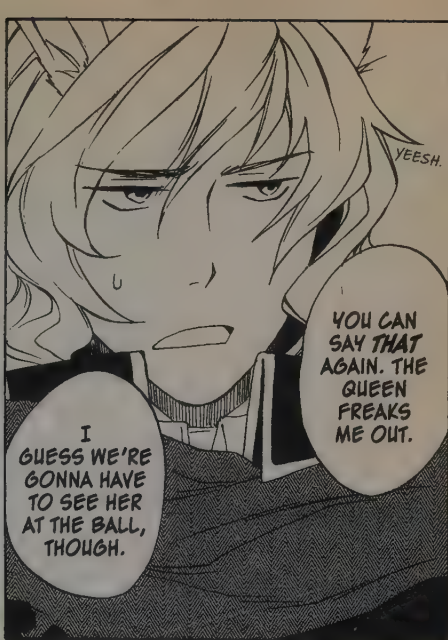


YEAH, BROTHER!

HEY, BROTHER!

DON'T YOU THINK THE LADY SHOULD WEAR A PINK DRESS?

BLOOD RED'S REALLY NICE, BUT THE PRETTY LADY SHOULD WEAR PINK!



YEESH.

YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN. THE QUEEN FREAKS ME OUT.

I GUESS WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO SEE HER AT THE BALL, THOUGH.



ENOUGH!

BORIS, I ALREADY SAID I'M NOT SURE I'M GOING.

I CAN BARELY DANCE, AND I'M NOT EXACTLY KEEN ON HUMILIATING MYSELF.



AS IF.

ALICE IS GONNA WEAR BLUE.

WHA?

BOO TO BLUE. PINK!

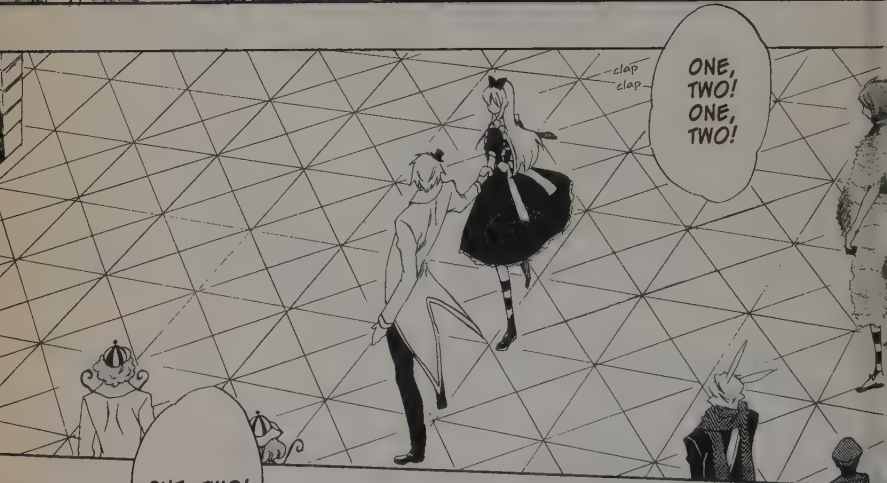


Lookit
the
lady!

Wow.

HEY.

LOOKIN'
GOOD,
ALICE.



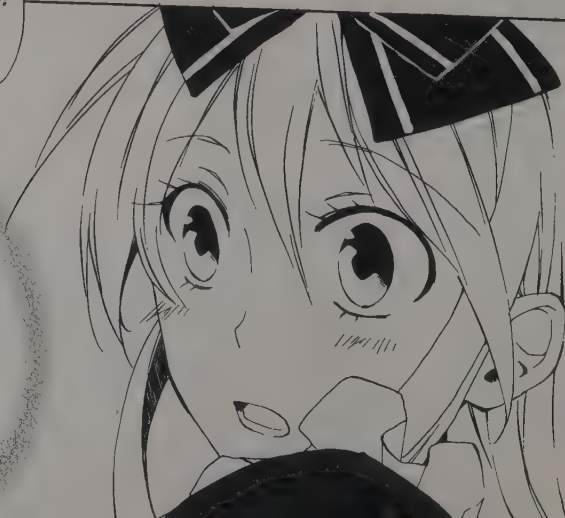
-clap
clap-

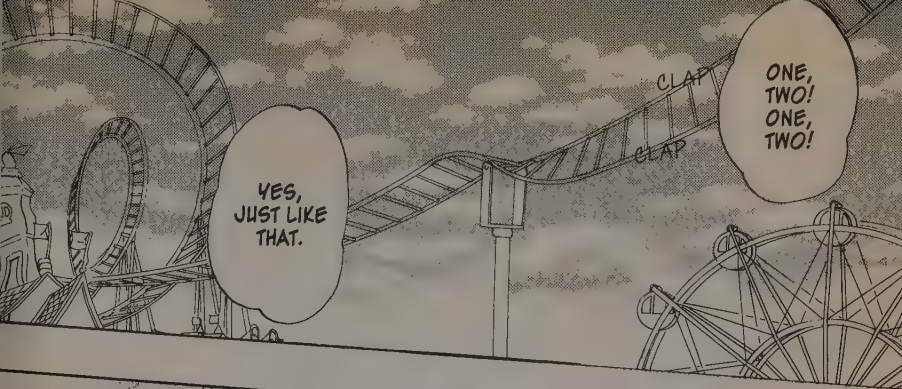
ONE,
TWO!
ONE,
TWO!

ONE, TWO!
ONE, TWO!

clap
clap

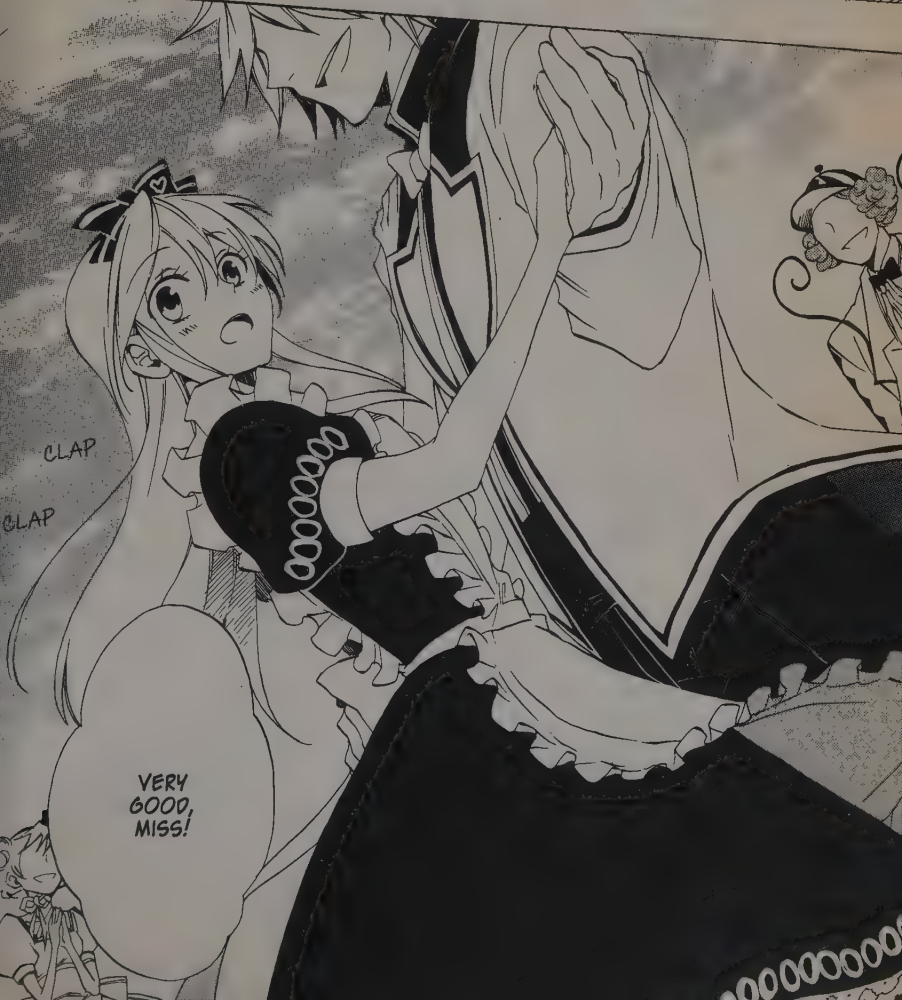
THIS IS...
ACTUALLY
KINDA FUN.





YES,
JUST LIKE
THAT.

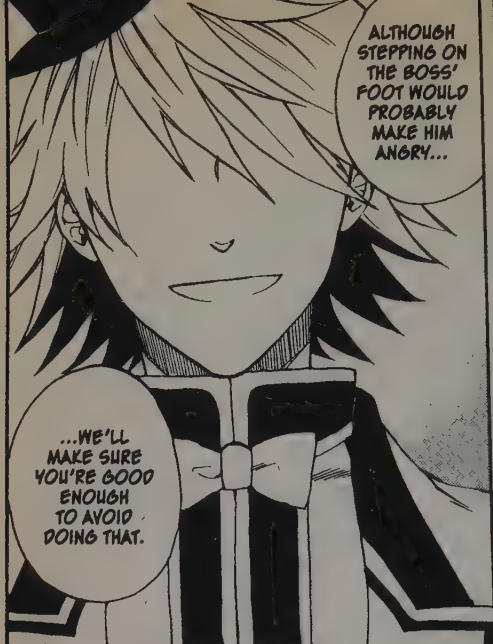
ONE,
TWO!
ONE,
TWO!



CLAP

CLAP

VERY
GOOD,
MISS!



ALTHOUGH
STEPPING ON
THE BOSS'
FOOT WOULD
PROBABLY
MAKE HIM
ANGRY...

...WE'LL
MAKE SURE
YOU'RE GOOD
ENOUGH
TO AVOID
DOING THAT.



I
DON'T
KNOW
...

DON'T BE
SO HARD ON
YOURSELF,
MISS.



I TAKE IT...
BLOOD'S
GOING TO
THE BALL?

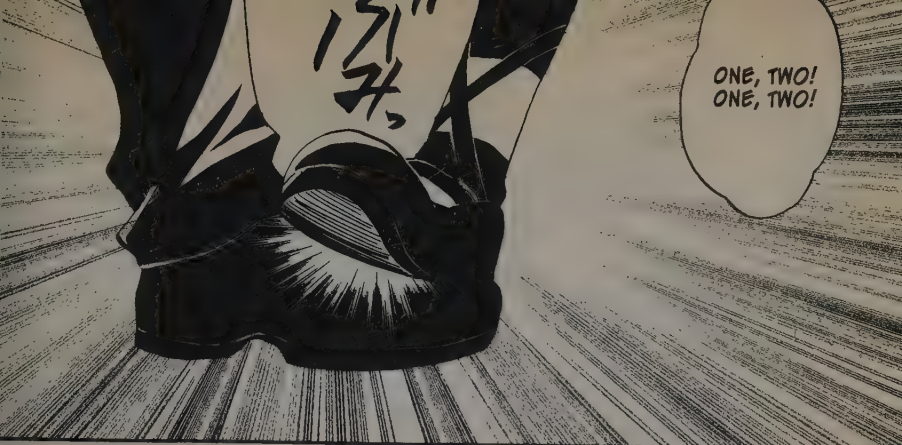
OF
COURSE.

THE
RULES
STATE
THAT THE
"ONES
WITH
DUTIES"
MUST
ATTEND.



Huh?

BLOOD...



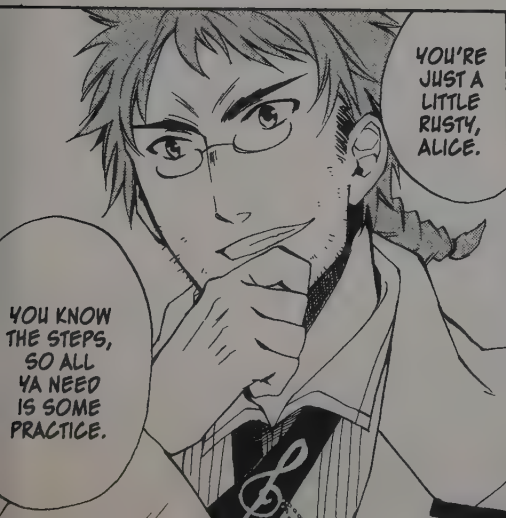
ONE, TWO!
ONE, TWO!



OH MY
GOD!

I'M SO
SORRY!

ER...
OW.



YOU'RE
JUST A
LITTLE
RUSTY,
ALICE.

YOU KNOW
THE STEPS,
SO ALL
YA NEED
IS SOME
PRACTICE.

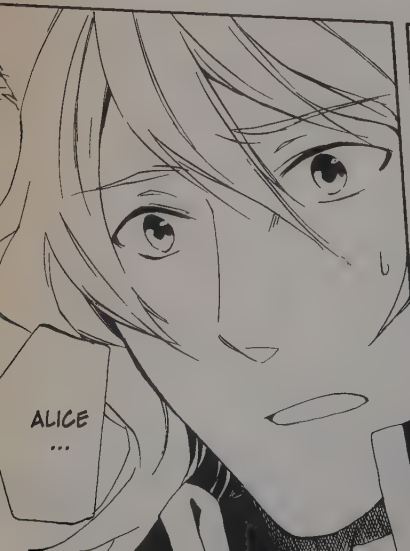


DID I
HURT
YOU?

NO,
I'M
FINE.



IF
BLOOD'S
GOING, I'M
DEFINITELY
STAYING
HOME.



ALICE
...



IT DOESN'T
MATTER IF I STEP
ON HIS FOOT
OR NOT--HE'LL
INSULT ME EITHER
WAY. HE DOESN'T
NEED AN EXCUSE
TO MAKE ME
FEEL BAD.



HE
ACTUALLY
LIKES
THE
BALL.

AND YOU
KNOW HOW
BLOOD GOES
NUTTY OVER
THE CASTLE'S
RARE TEAS.



...I'M
NOT
GOING.

HUH?



NOW THAT
WE'RE
FIXING THE
DANCING
PROBLEM,
YOU'LL
COME,
RIGHT?

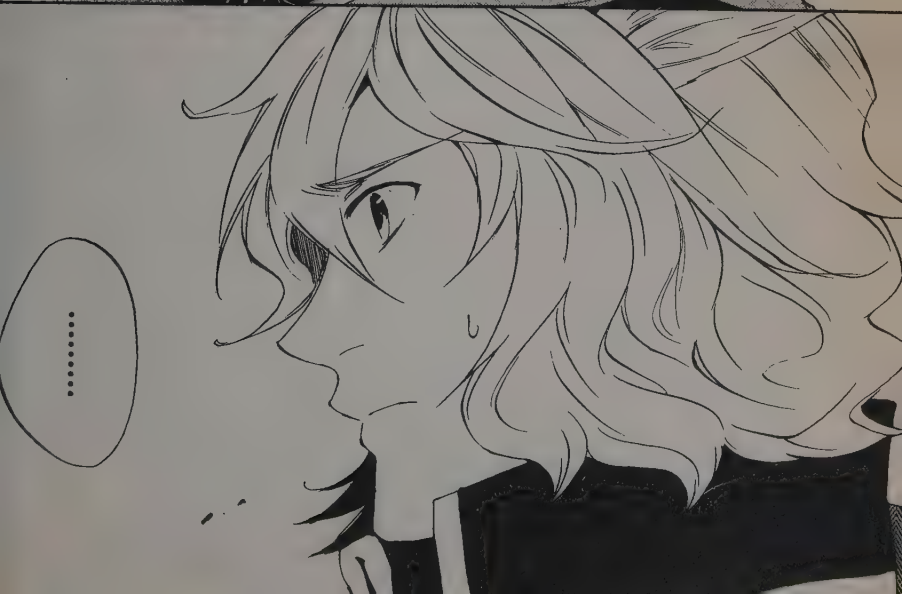
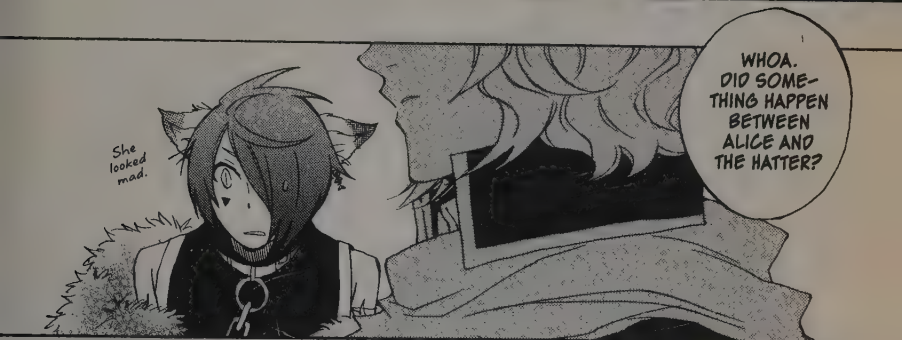
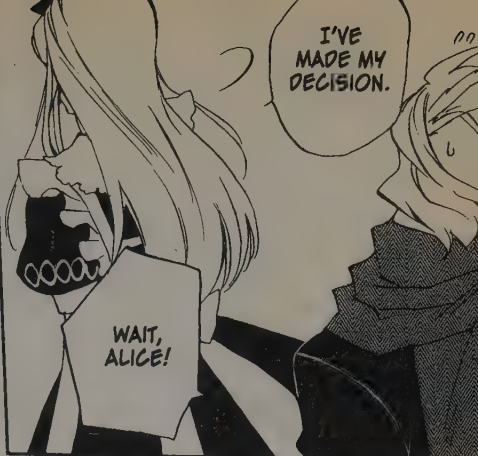


THINK
ABOUT
IT!

THERE'S
GONNA BE
FREE CARROT
CUISINE!

♥26 Rising of the Curtain

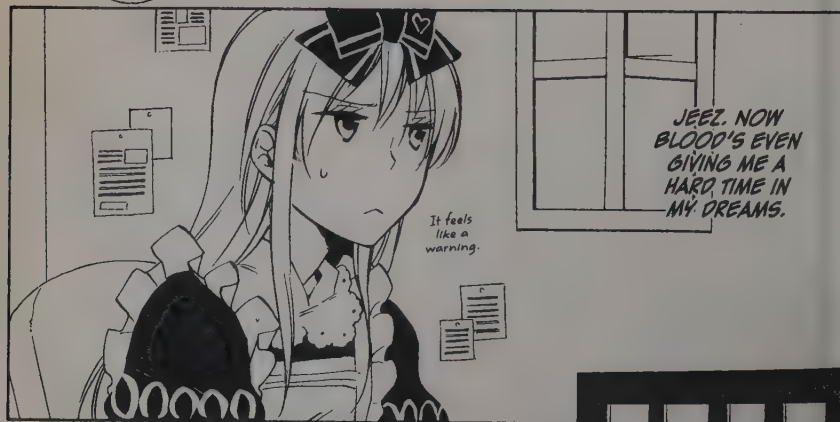
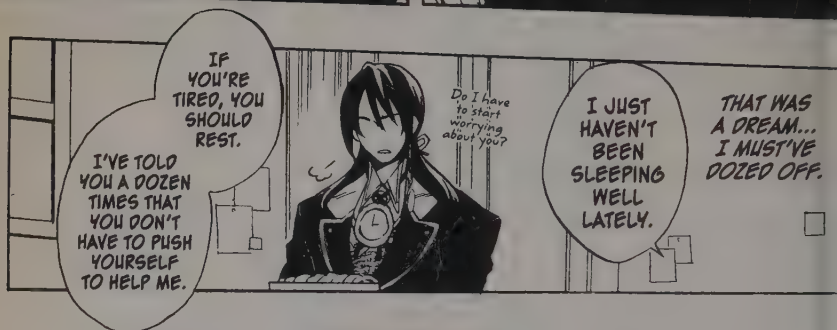






WOW.

I DID
GET
A LOT
BETTER.

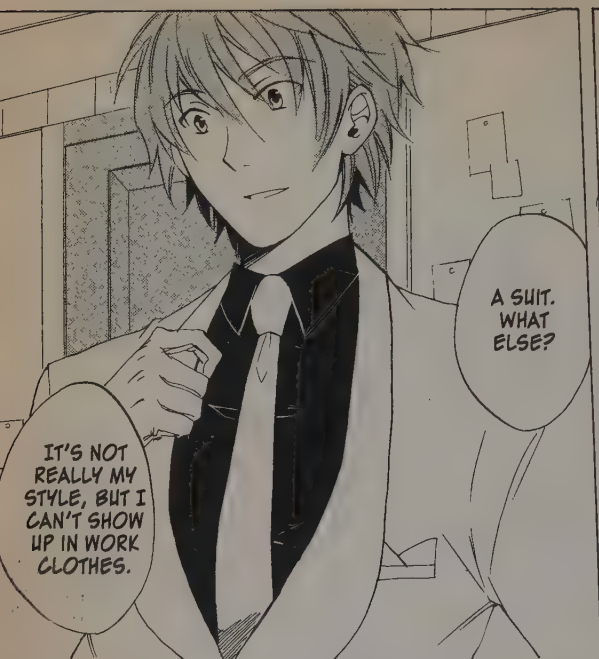




DON'T
APO-
LOGIZE.

SOME MEN
PAY TO HAVE
YOUNG WOMEN
STEP ALL
OVER THEM.

BLOOD?!



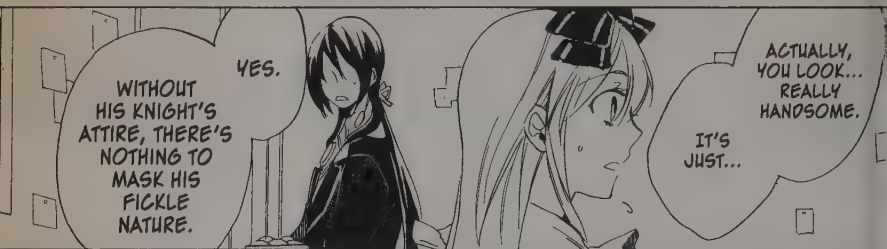
IT'S NOT
REALLY MY
STYLE, BUT I
CAN'T SHOW
UP IN WORK
CLOTHES.

A SUIT.
WHAT
ELSE?



THE
BALL'S
STARTING
SOON.
HURRY
AND GET
DRESSED

WH-WHAT
ARE YOU
WEARING,
ACE?



WITHOUT
HIS KNIGHT'S
ATTIRE, THERE'S
NOTHING TO
MASK HIS
FICKLE
NATURE.

YES.



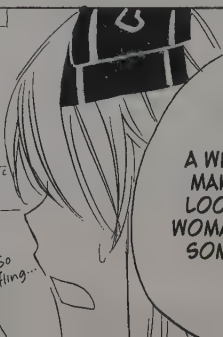
ACTUALLY,
YOU LOOK...
REALLY
HANDSOME.

IT'S
JUST...



HA HA!
THAT'S
REALLY
MEAN.

So
trifling...



THAT'S
SORTA
WHAT I WAS
THINKING.

A WHITE SUIT
MAKES YOU
LOOK LIKE A
WOMANIZER OR
SOMETHING.



MAYBE I
SHOULDN'T
GO TO THE
BALL, AFTER
ALL.
IT'LL
PROB-
ABLY BE
TROUBLE.

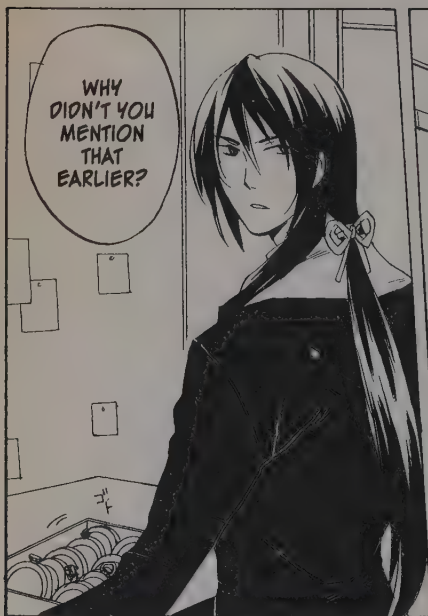
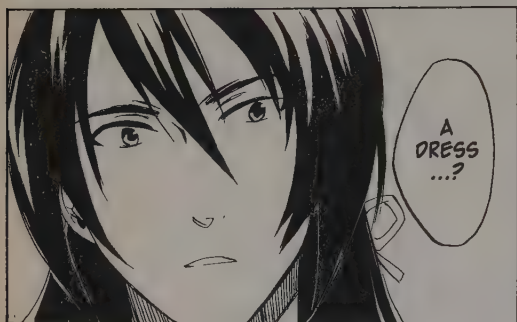
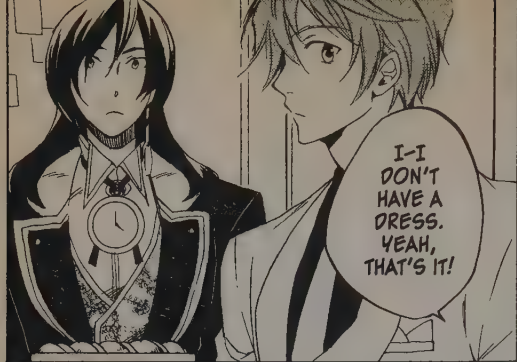
KA-
CHAK

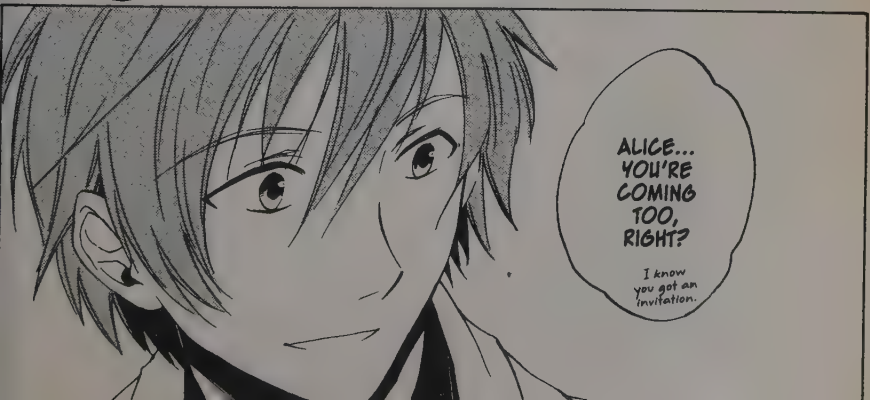
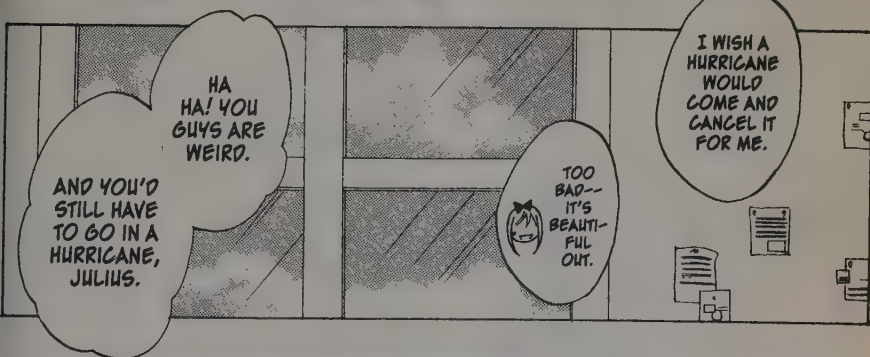
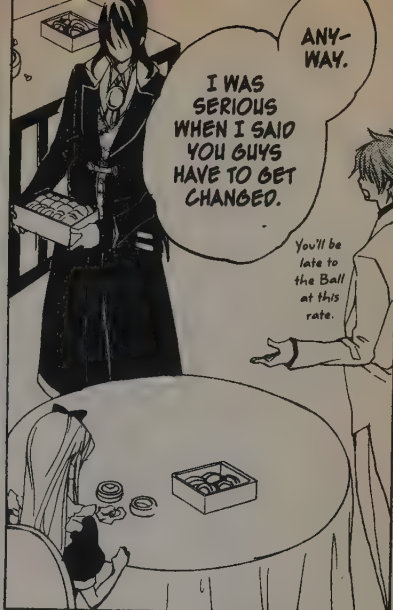
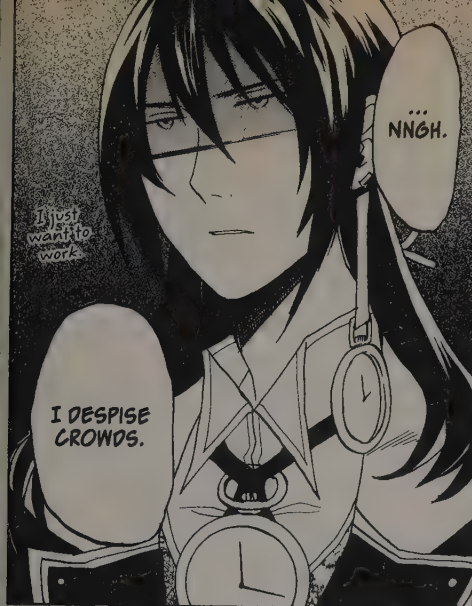
ALICE.
JULIUS.

ARE
YOU
READY?

...WAIT.

YOU
GUYS
HAVEN'T
CHANGED
YET?



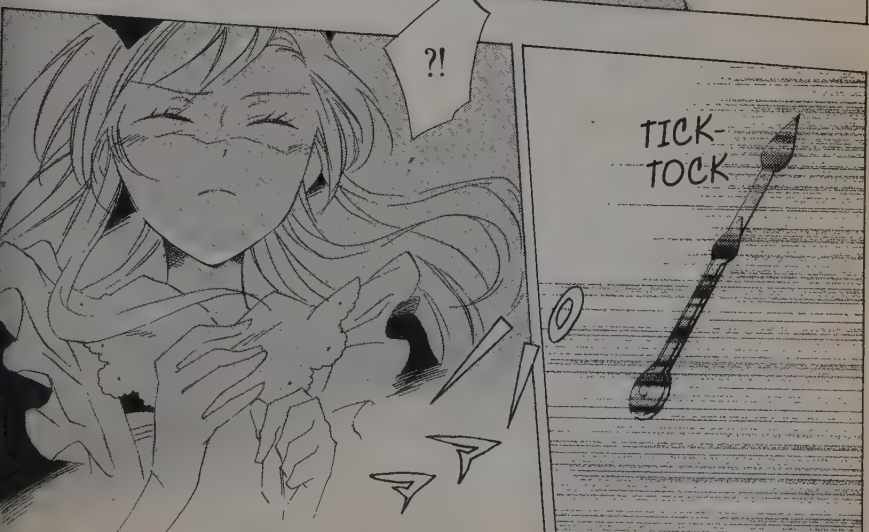
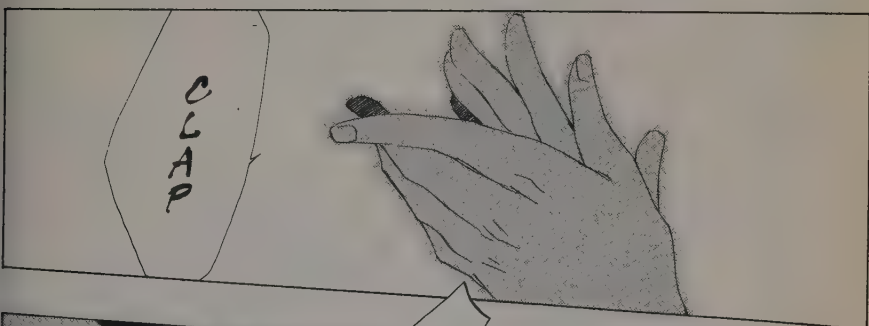


し
お!



WH...

WHAT
JUST
HAP-
PENED?!







JUST
SHUT UP,
ACE.

AND
STOP
SQUIRM-
ING.

No
fair!

I'M
SURE THE
CASTLE'S
BACK
THERE!

DON'T
PULL ME



WHOA.

WE
ACTUALLY
MADE IT.

HUFF

HUFF

YOU GUYS
KNOW YOUR
STUFF.

I WASN'T
EXPECTING TO
MAKE IT FOR
ANOTHER THREE
TIME PERIODS,
AT LEAST!

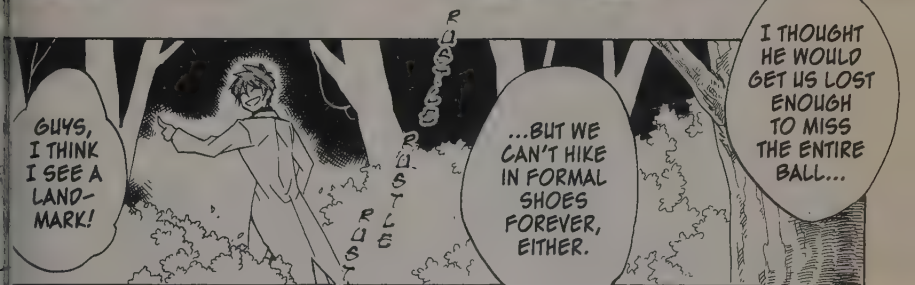


AGH!

My
feet
hurt.

The time of
day keeps
changing.

PERHAPS
LETTING
HIM LEAD
WASN'T MY
GREATEST
IDEA.



GUYS,
I THINK
I SEE A
LAND-
MARK!

...BUT WE
CAN'T HIKE
IN FORMAL
SHOES
FOREVER,
EITHER.

I THOUGHT
HE WOULD
GET US LOST
ENOUGH
TO MISS
THE ENTIRE
BALL...



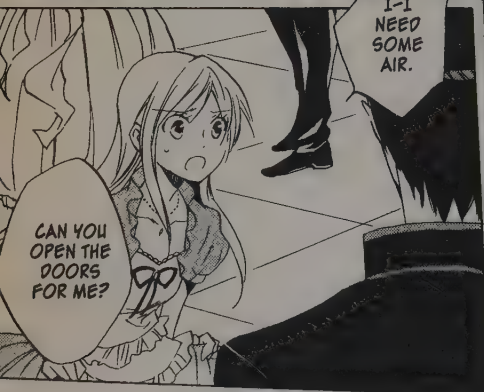
I'LL JUST
DRAG ACE
THERE AND
SNEAK
OUT WHEN
NO ONE'S
LOOKING.



HM?

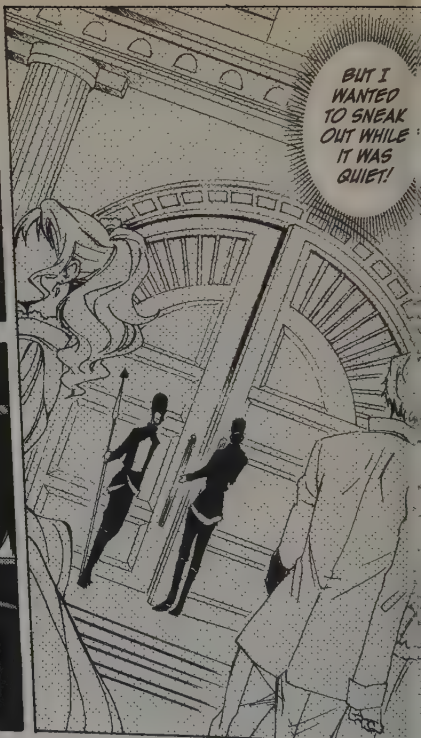


KA-CHUNK



CAN YOU
OPEN THE
DOORS FOR ME?

I-I
NEED
SOME
AIR.



BUT I
WANTED
TO SNEAK
OUT WHILE
IT WAS
QUIET!



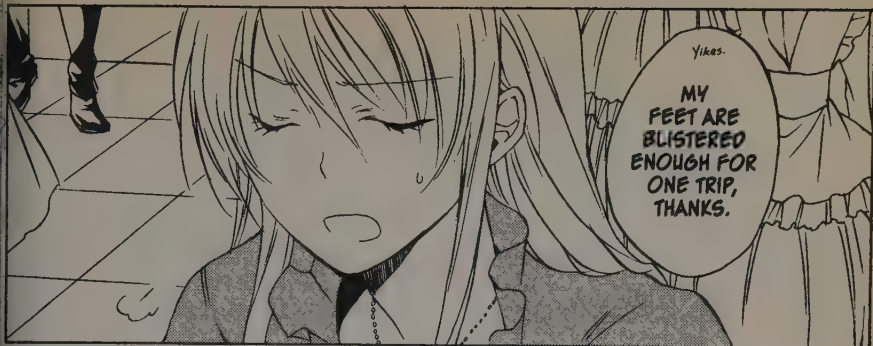
CRAP.



I'M
VERY
SORRY,
MISS.

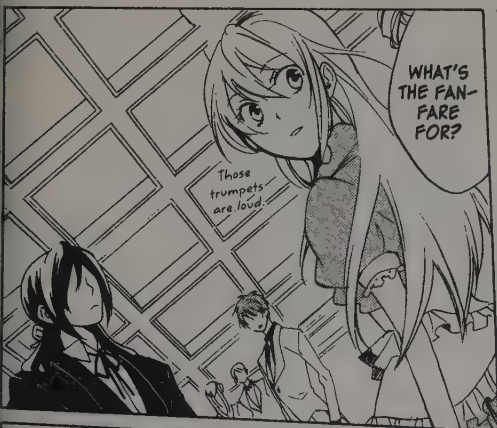
BUT WE
CAN'T RISK
THE NOISE--
HER MAJESTY
IS ABOUT
TO SPEAK.

3



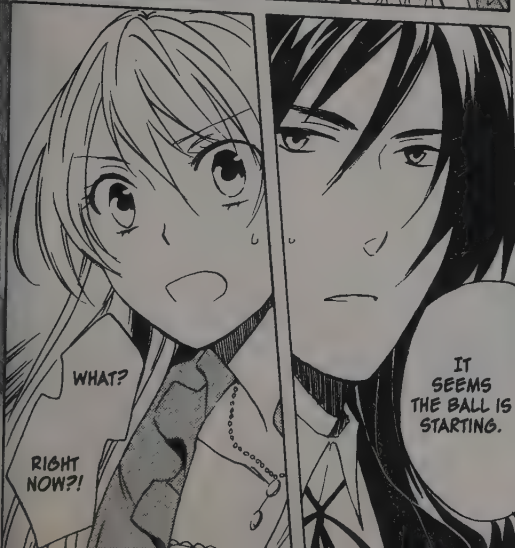
Yikes.

MY
FEET ARE
BLISTERED
ENOUGH FOR
ONE TRIP,
THANKS.



WHAT'S
THE FAN-
FARE
FOR?

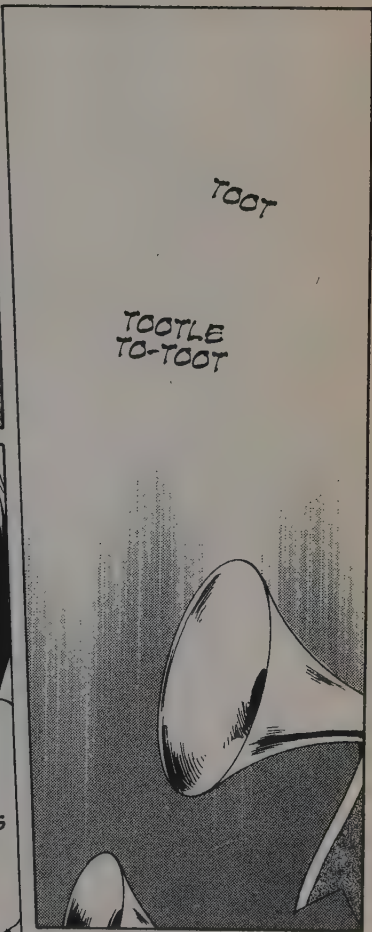
Those
trumpets
are loud.



WHAT?

RIGHT
NOW?!

IT
SEEMS
THE BALL IS
STARTING.

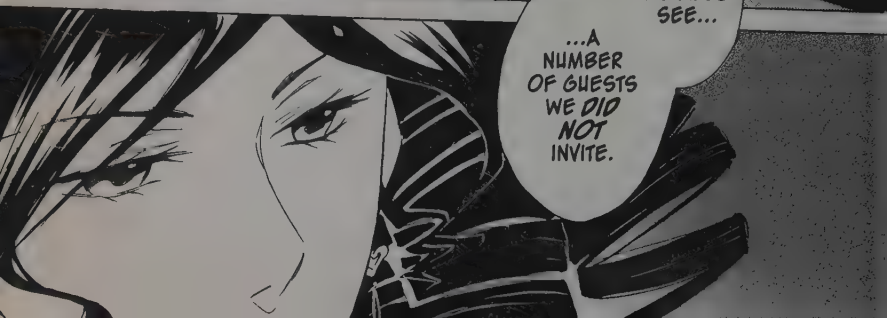


TOOT

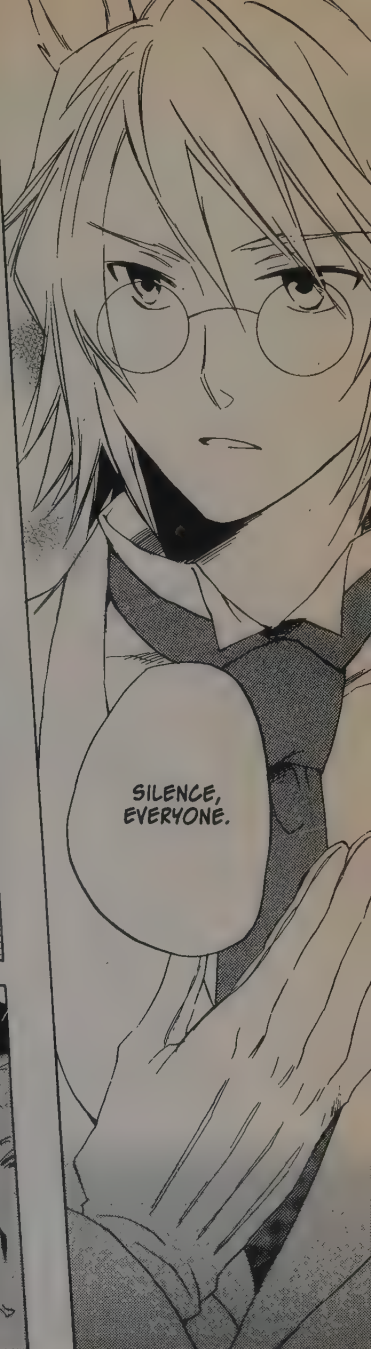
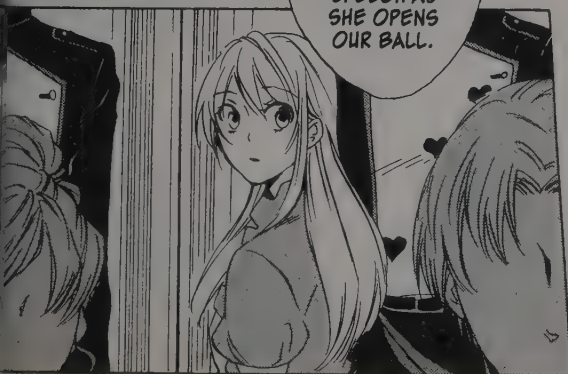
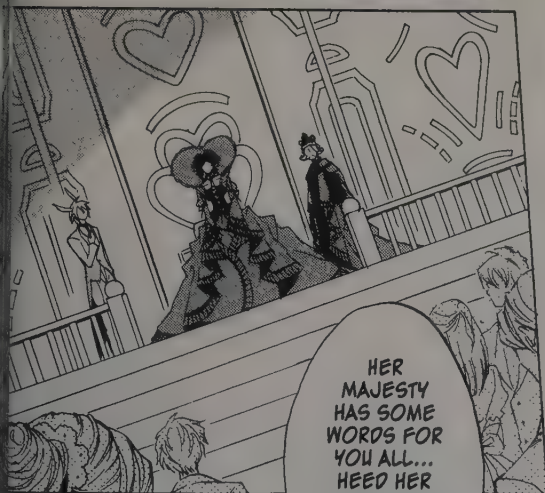
TOOTLE
TO-TOOT



WE SEE
THAT MANY
GUESTS HAVE
GATHERED AT
OUR CASTLE
THIS DAY.

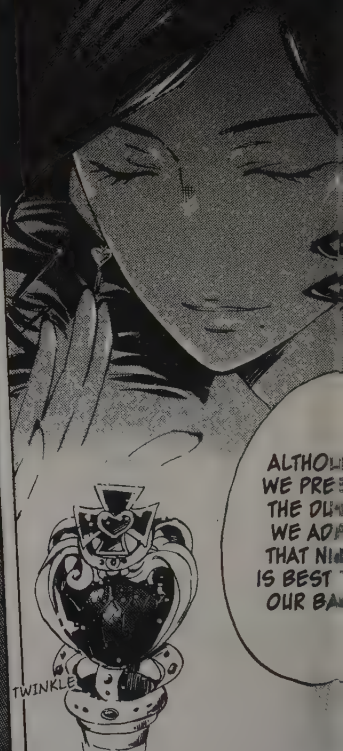


AND
WE ALSO
SEE...
...A
NUMBER
OF GUESTS
WE DID
NOT
INVITE.



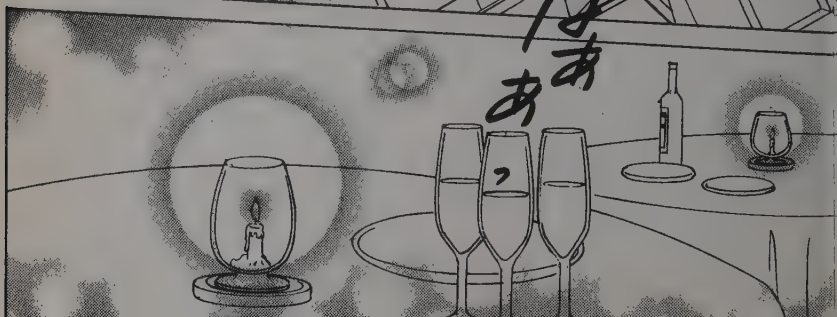
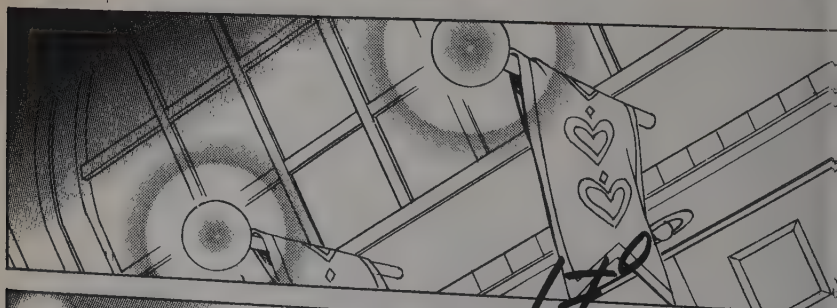


LIGHTS.



ALTHOUGH
WE PREPARE
THE OLIVE
WE ADMIRE
THAT NIGHT
IS BEST
OUR BAK

TWINKLE

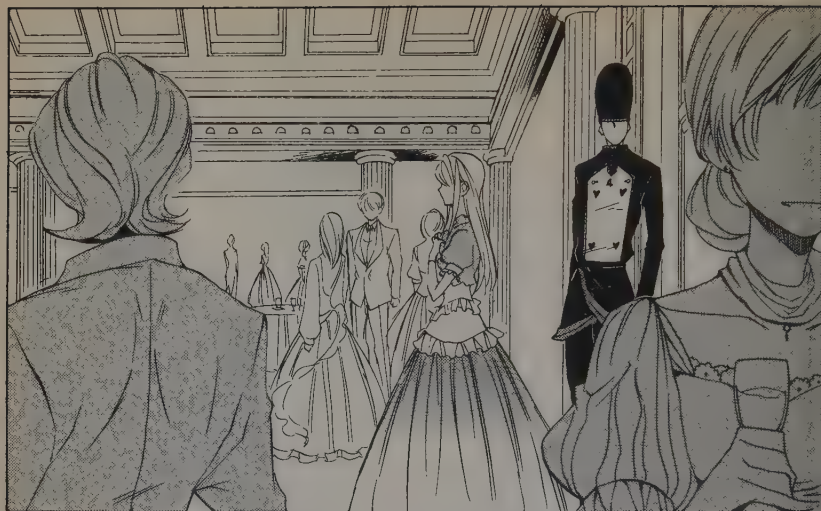




BUT
THIS IS A
NIGHT FOR
CELEBRATION.

WE WILL
FORGET OUR
DIFFERENCES
TEMPORARILY.







...PLEASE
ENJOY THIS
NIGHT WITH
ALL OF
YOUR JOIE
DE VIVRE.

BECAUSE
LIFE IS
FRAGILE
AND MAY
END
AT ANY
TIME...



That was
very short...
and cryptic.

V-
VIVALDI?

A BRIEF,
FIERCE
STIR! HOW
VERY LIKE
HER.



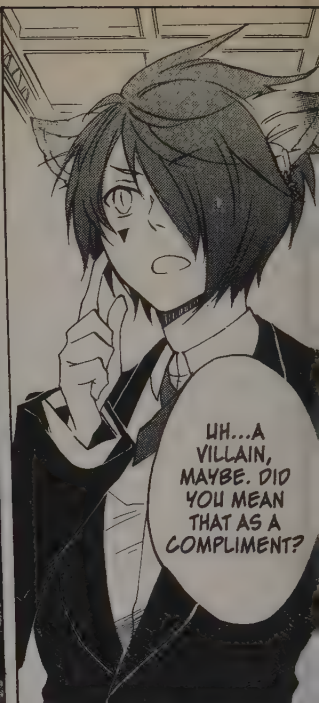
THAT
IS ALL.



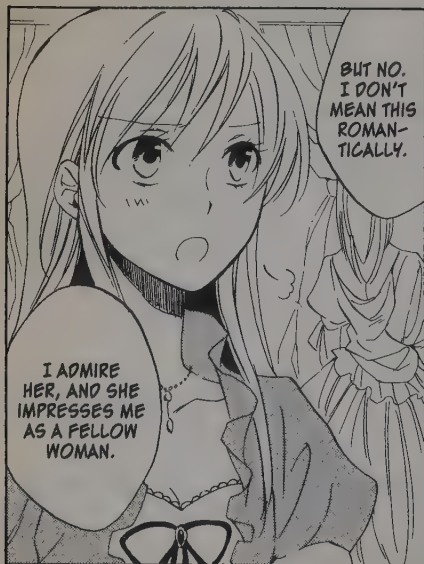
ARE YOU
KIDDING?

YES.
SHE'S SO...
ENCHANT-
ING!

LIKE
THAT LITTLE
SPEECH.

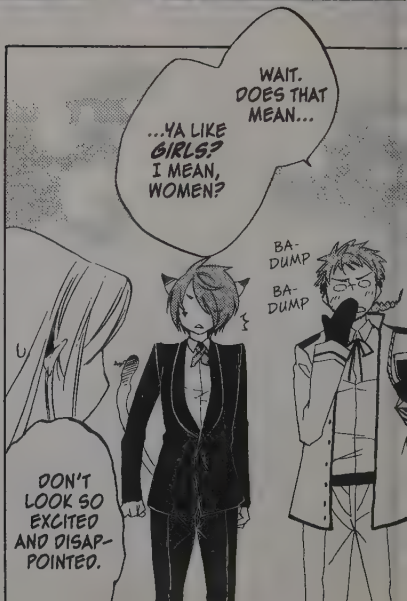


UH...A
VILLAIN,
MAYBE. DID
YOU MEAN
THAT AS A
COMPLIMENT?



BUT NO.
I DON'T
MEAN THIS
ROMAN-
TICALLY.

I ADMIRE
HER, AND SHE
IMPRESSES ME
AS A FELLOW
WOMAN.

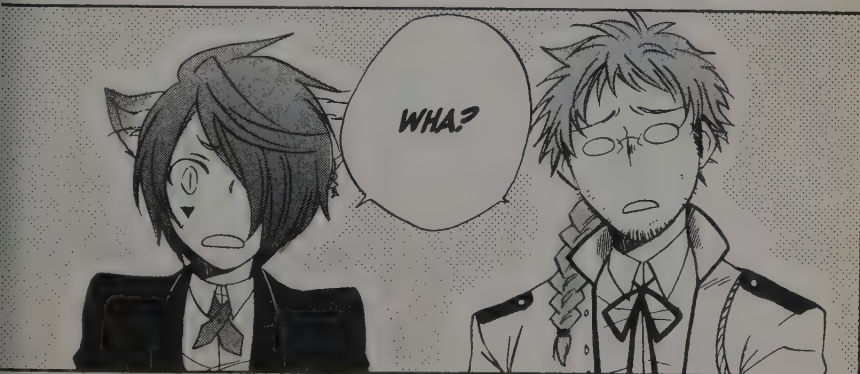
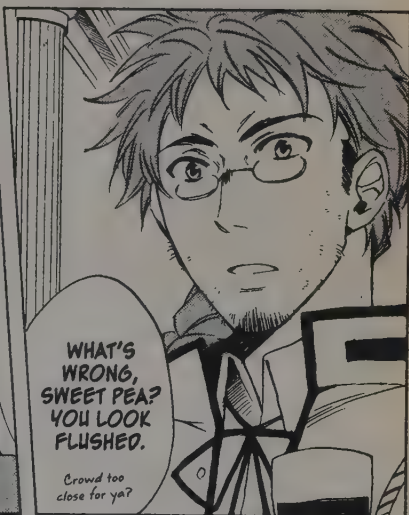


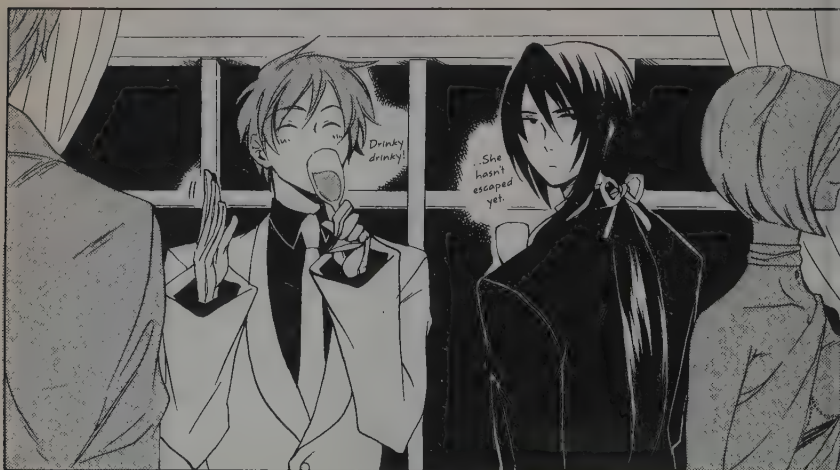
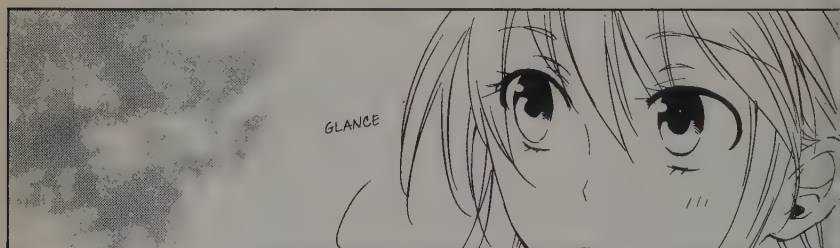
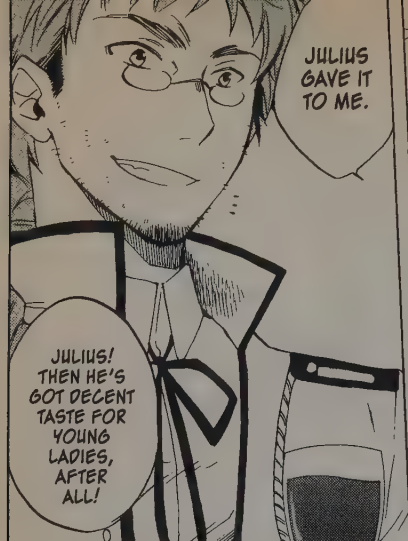
WAIT.
DOES THAT
MEAN...

...YA LIKE
GIRLS?
I MEAN,
WOMEN?

BA-
DUMP
BA-
DUMP

DON'T
LOOK SO
EXCITED
AND DISAP-
POINTED.





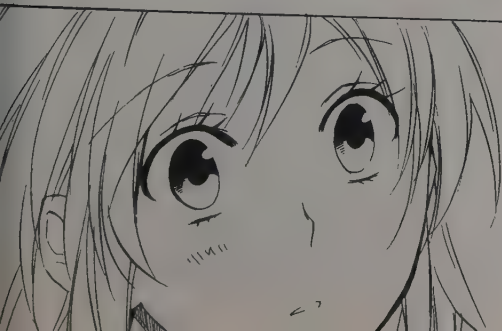


I DON'T
REALLY
GET IT,
BUT...

HUNH.



YOU
SHOULD
LOOK
IN THE
MIRROR.
YOU'RE
PLENTY
"ENCHANT-
ING"
YOURSELF.

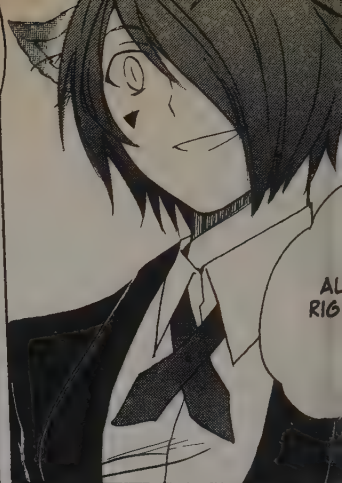


AND THAT
DRESS IS
REALLY
PRETTY.



THEN WE
SHOULD
TOTALLY
DANCE.

SURE.

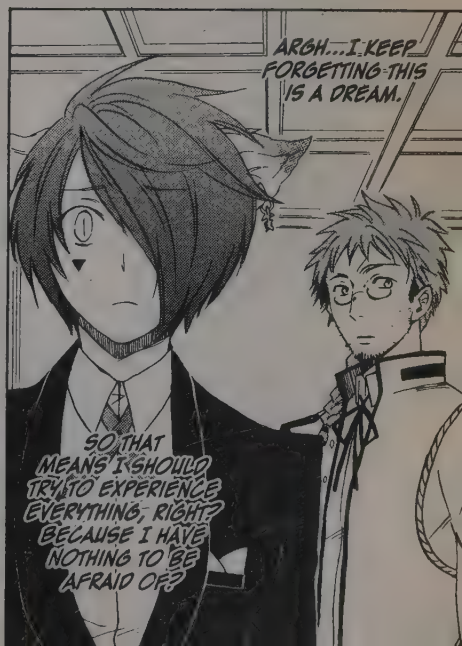
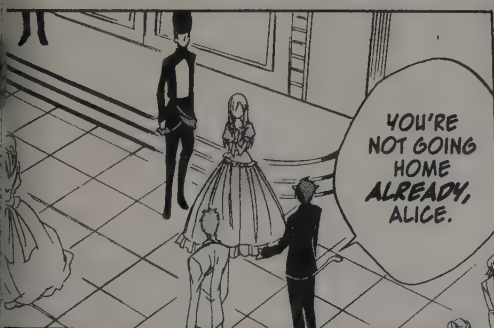
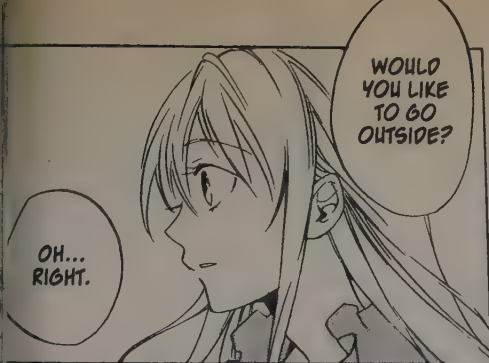


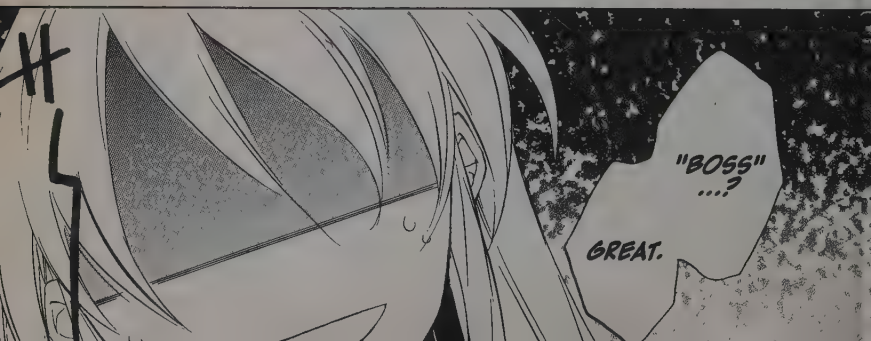
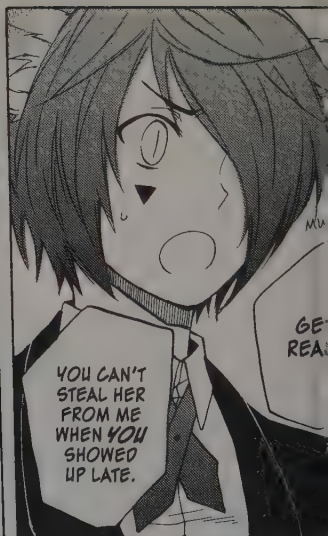
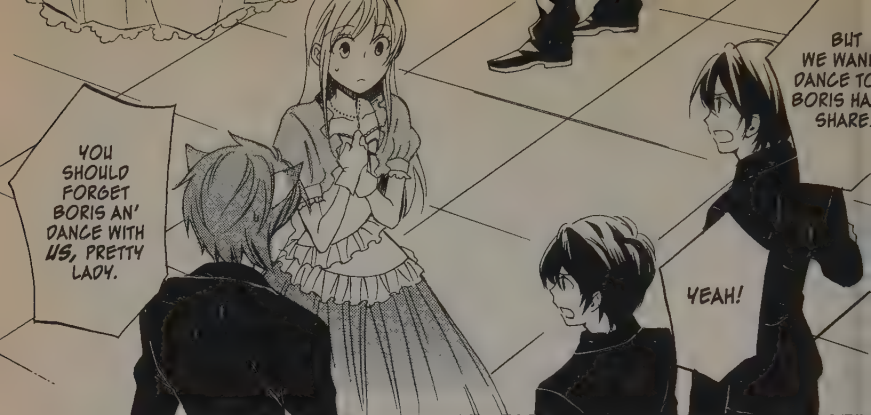
AL
RIG



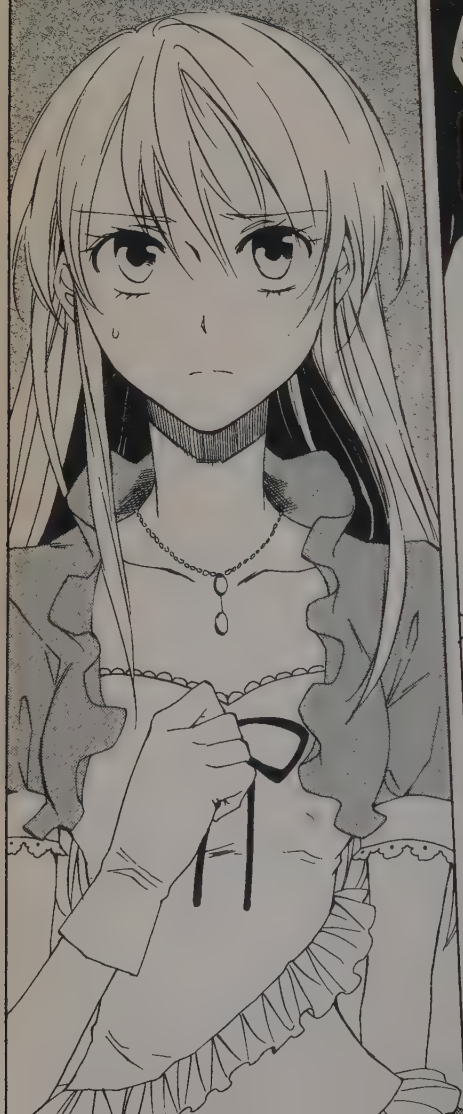
I'M
WORRYING
TOO MUCH.
I MIGHT NO
EVEN SEE
BLOOD

I NEED
TO STOP
LETTING HIM
GET TO ME.









WELL.

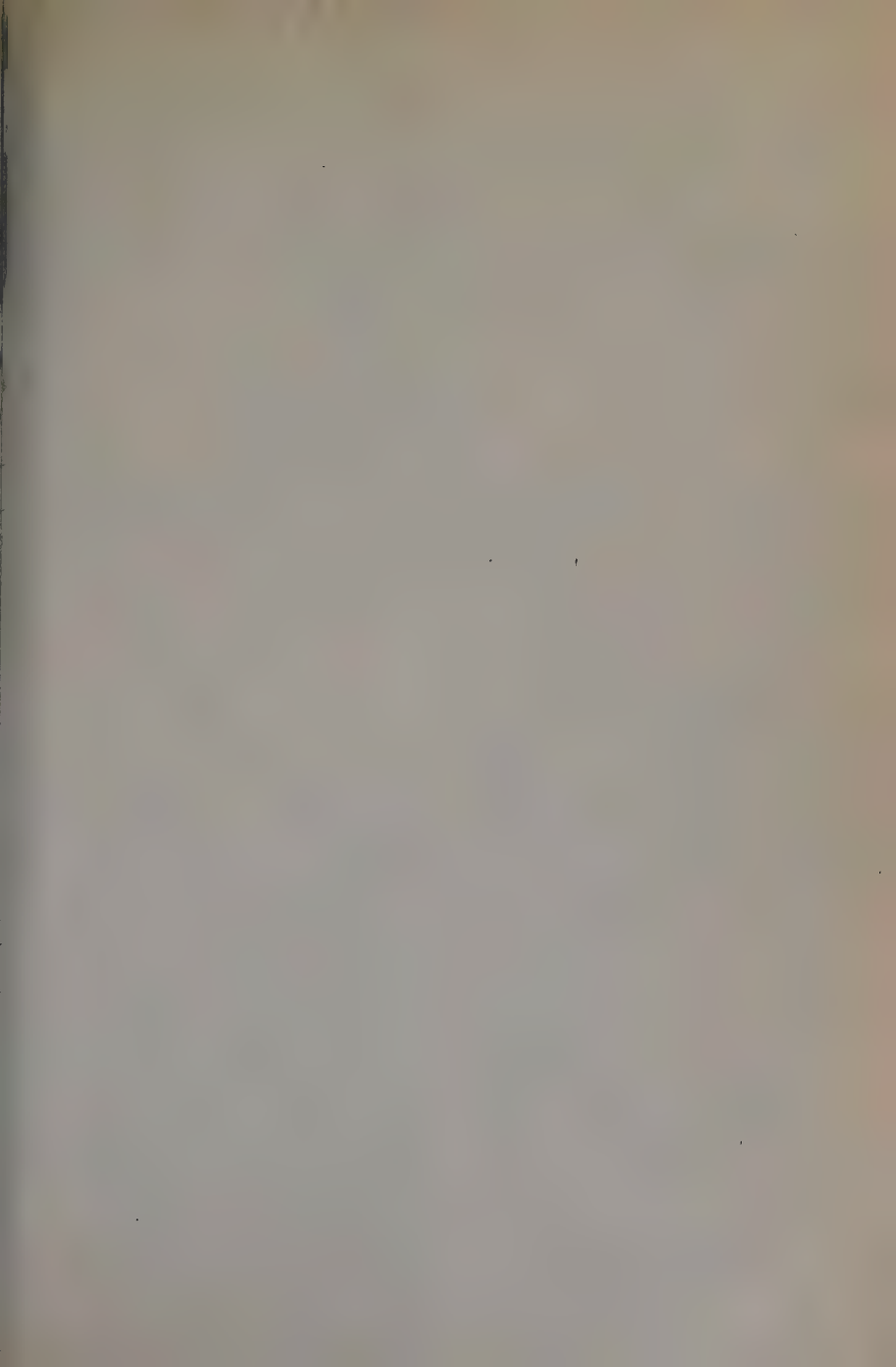
LONG
TIME NO
SEE,
YOUNG
LADY.

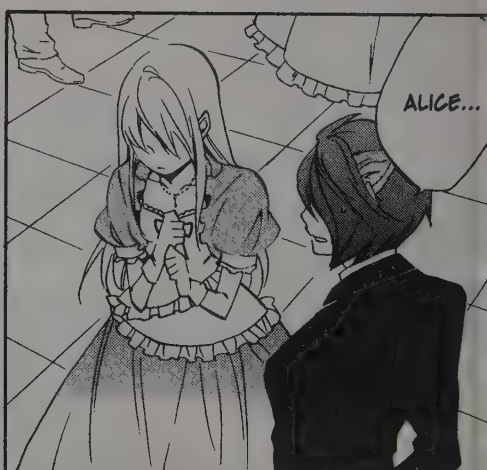
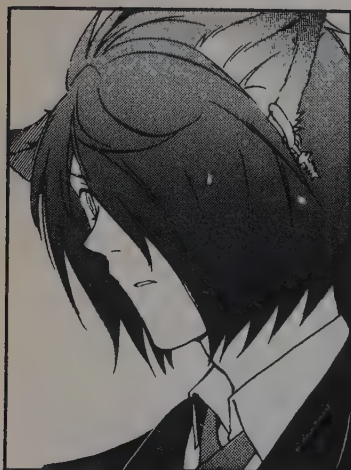
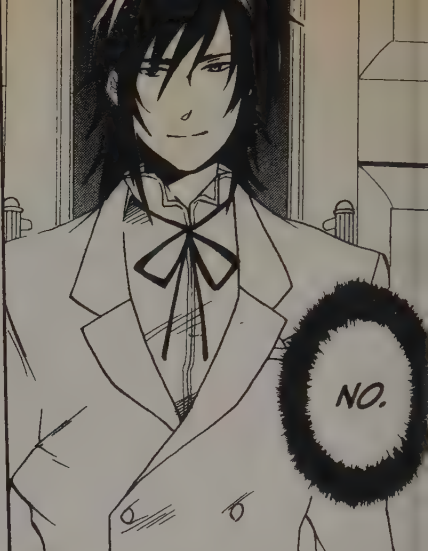
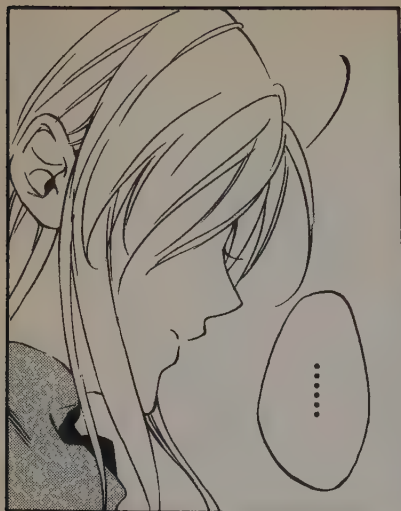




AND WHAT
HAVE *YOU*
BEEN UP TO
LATELY?

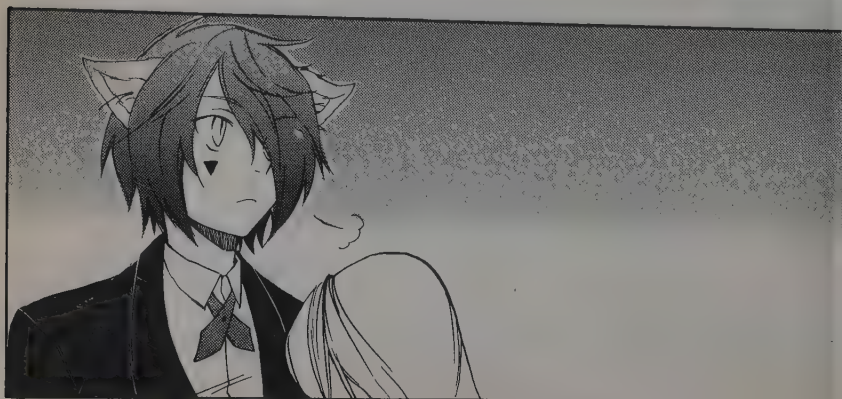
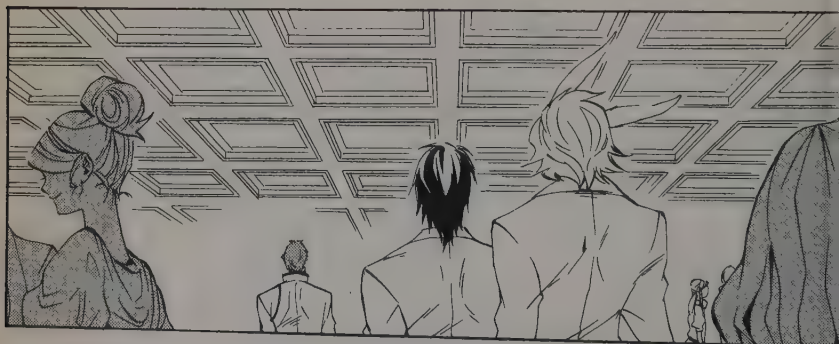
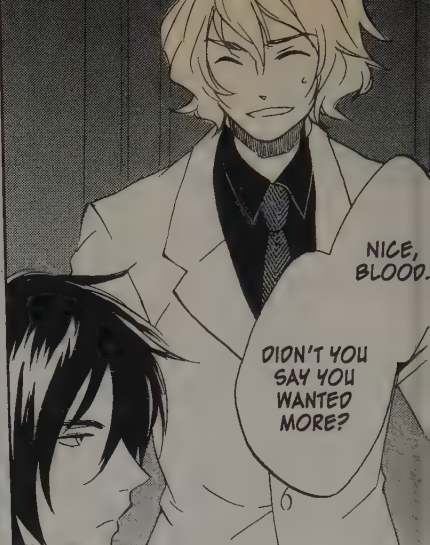
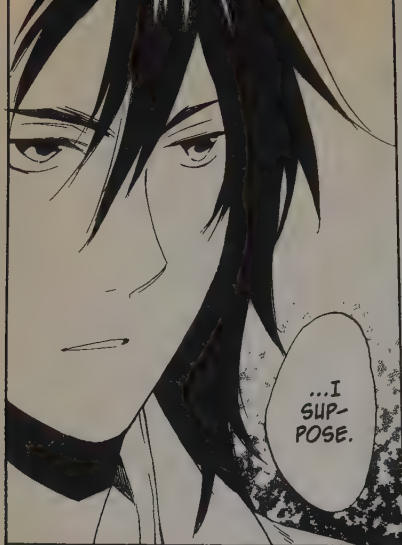
SOMETHING
THAT WOULD
MAKE A GENTLE-
MAN BLUSH,
I'M SURE.

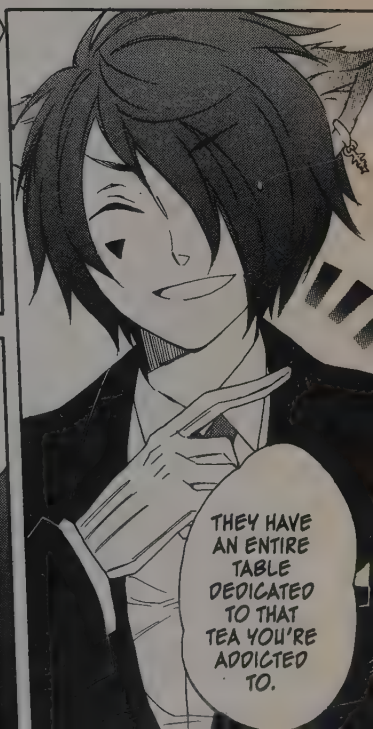
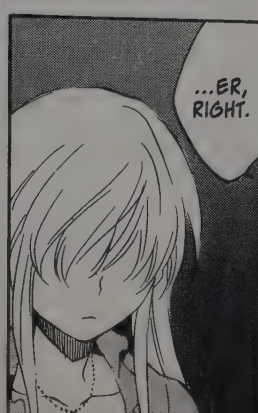
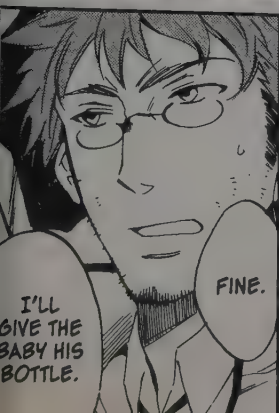
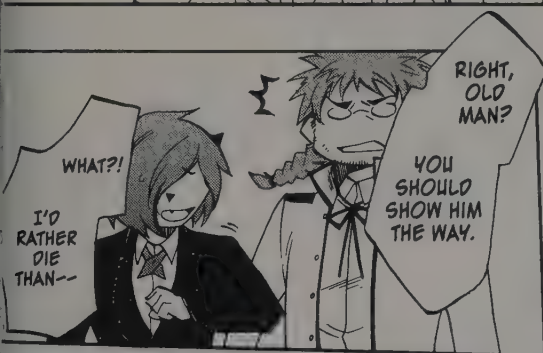


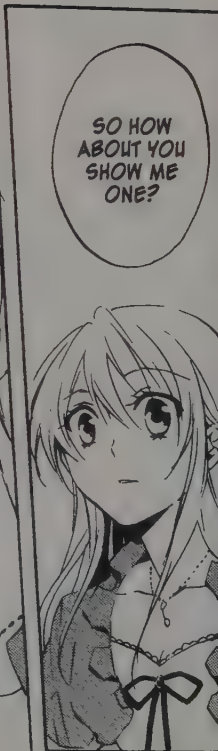


♥27 Rondo

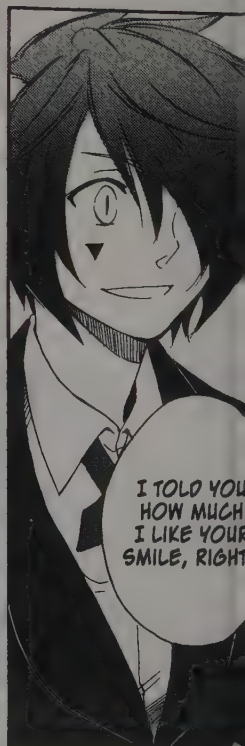




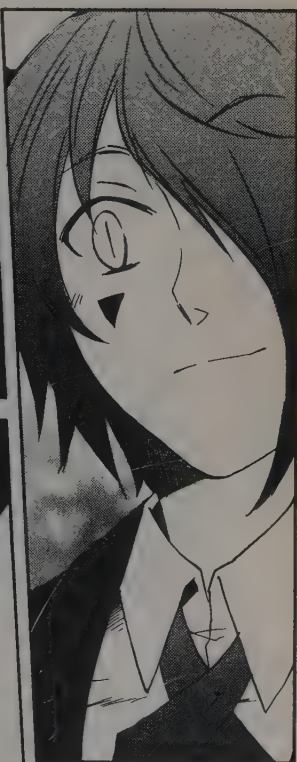
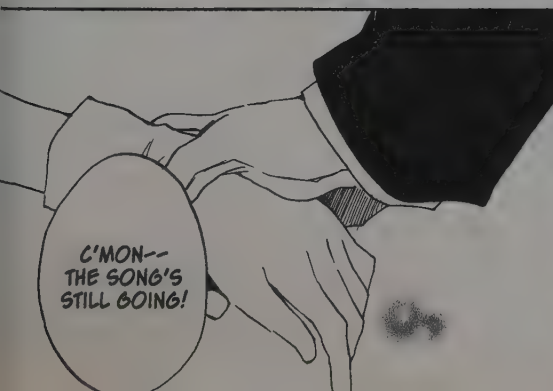
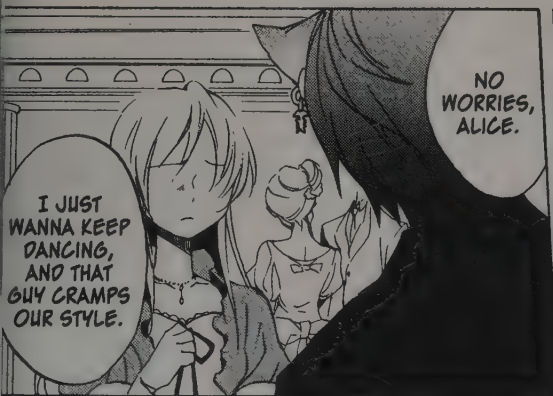
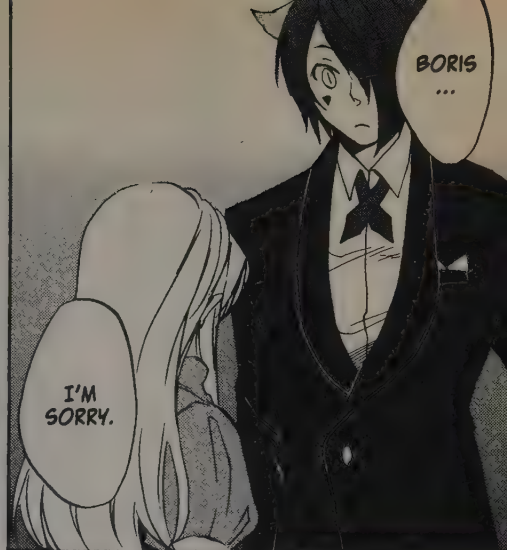


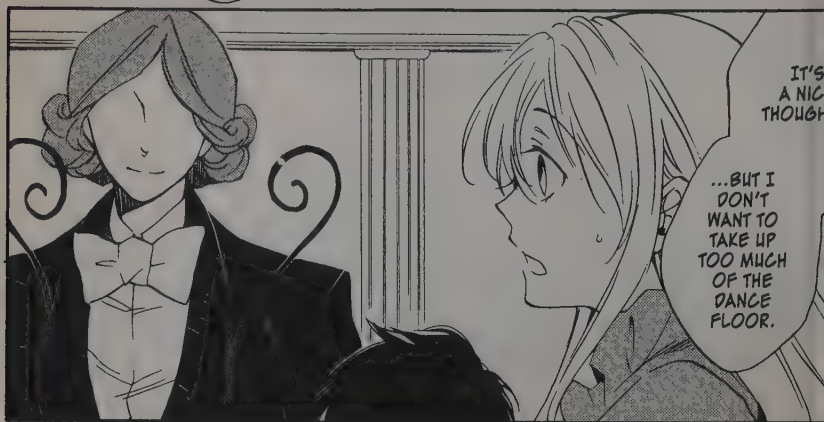
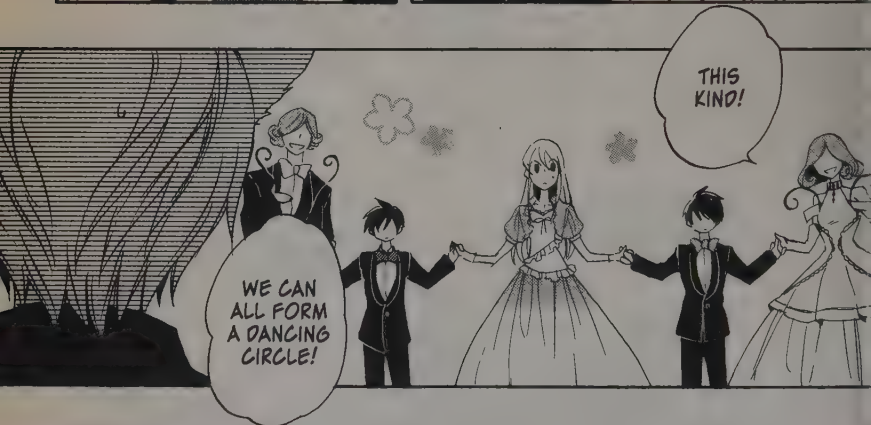
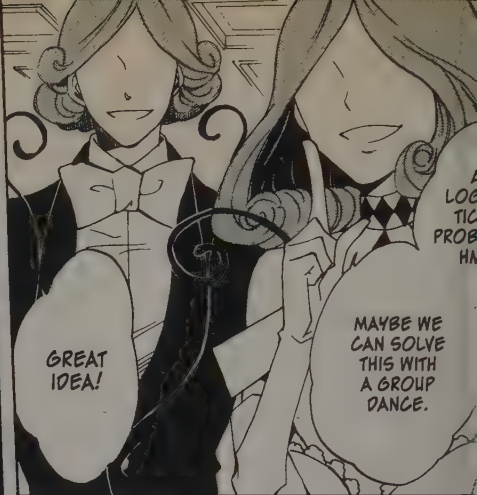
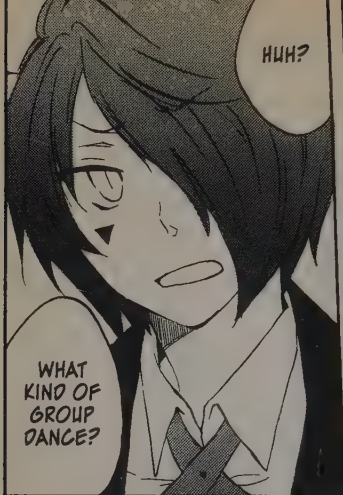


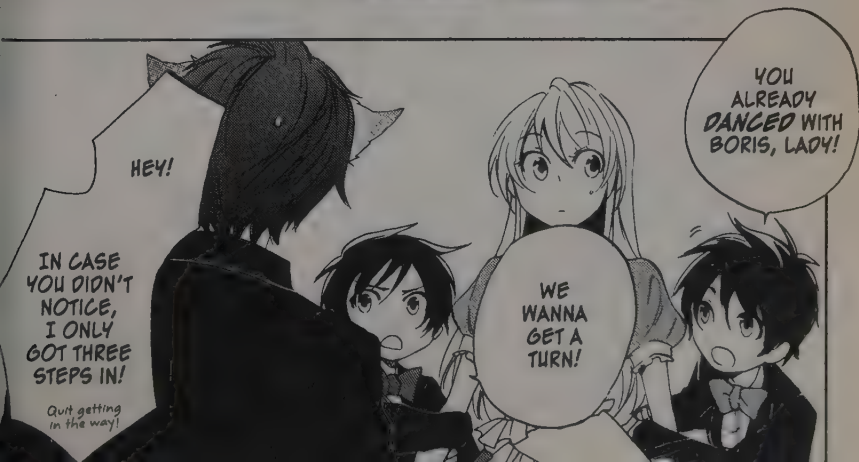
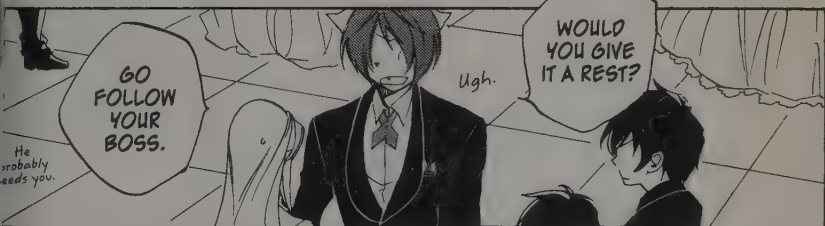
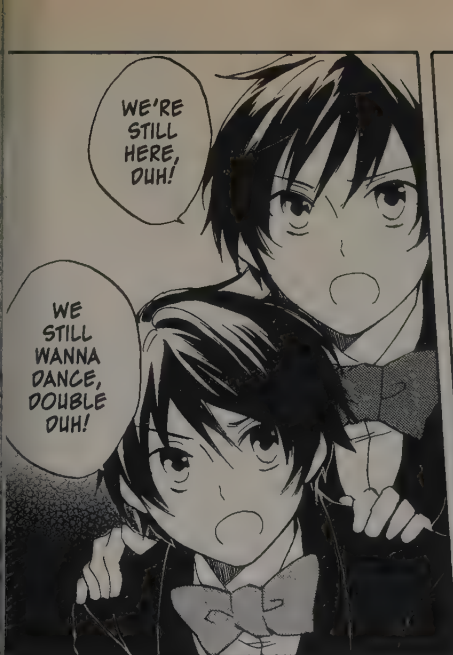
SO HOW
ABOUT YOU
SHOW ME
ONE?

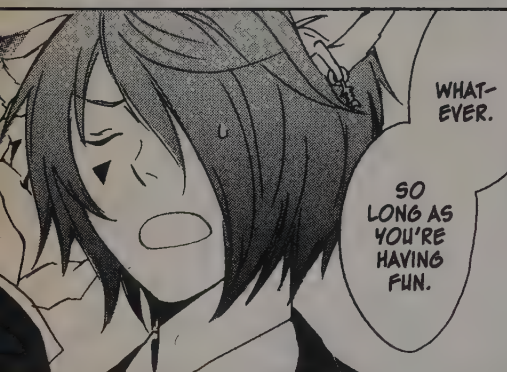
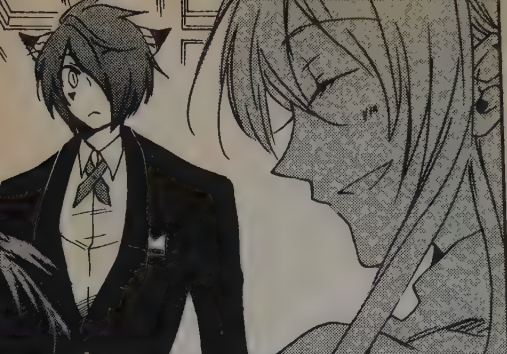


I TOLD YOU
HOW MUCH
I LIKE YOUR
SMILE, RIGHT









WHAT-
EVER.

SO
LONG AS
YOU'RE
HAVING
FUN.



THIS IS
MORE LIKE
FIELD DAY
THAN A BALL.

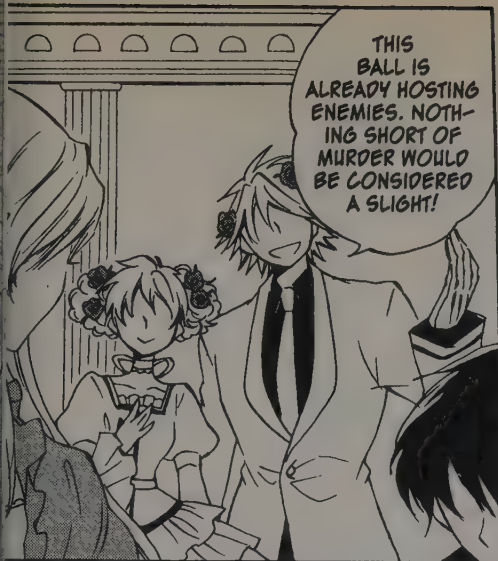
Like square
dancing in
shorts.



YOU
DON'T GET
THE SPOT NEXT
TO THE LADY,
CAT FACE!

HEY!

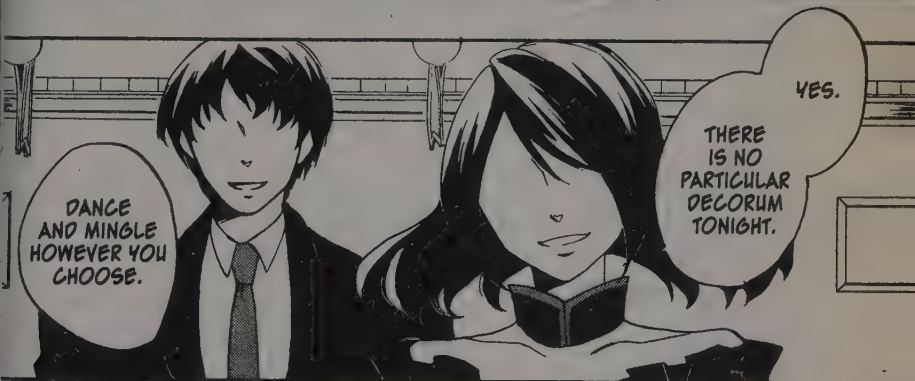
DID
YOU JUST
CLOSE ME
OUT?!



THIS
BALL IS
ALREADY HOSTING
ENEMIES. NOTH-
ING SHORT OF
MURDER WOULD
BE CONSIDERED
A SLIGHT!



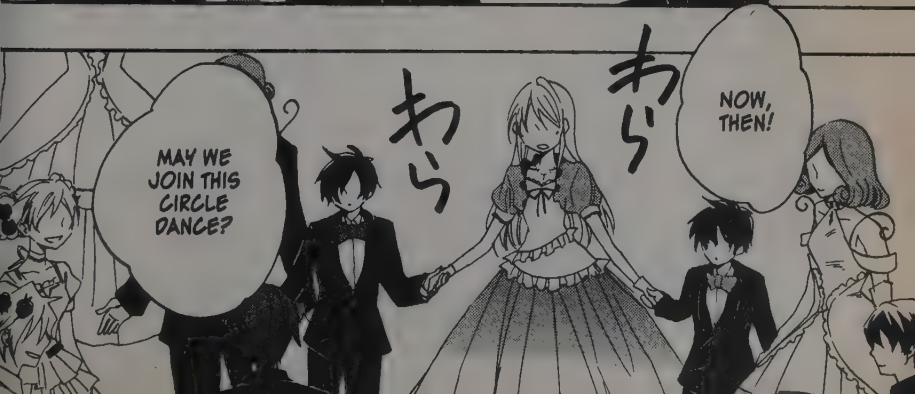
NOT TO
WORRY.



DANCE
AND MINGLE
HOWEVER YOU
CHOOSE.

YES.

THERE
IS NO
PARTICULAR
DECORUM
TONIGHT.



MAY WE
JOIN THIS
CIRCLE
DANCE?

あら

あら

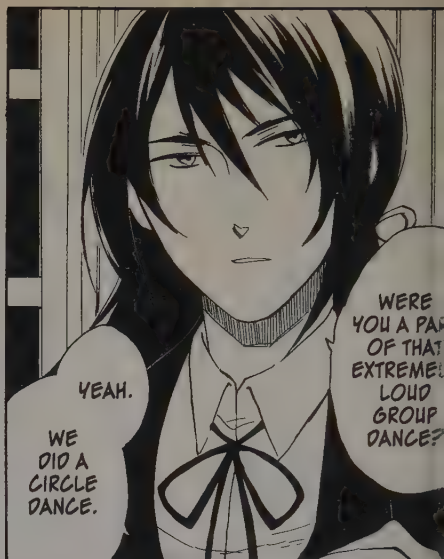
NOW,
THEN!



DO YOU
WANT TO
JOIN US?

ABSO-
LUTELY
NOT.

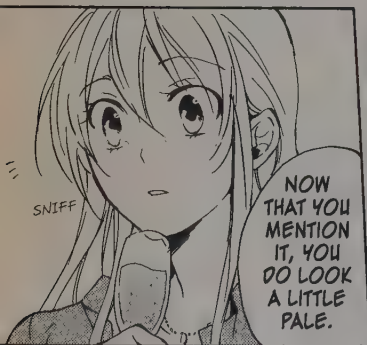
BUT
IT'S FUN,
JULIUS!



YEAH.

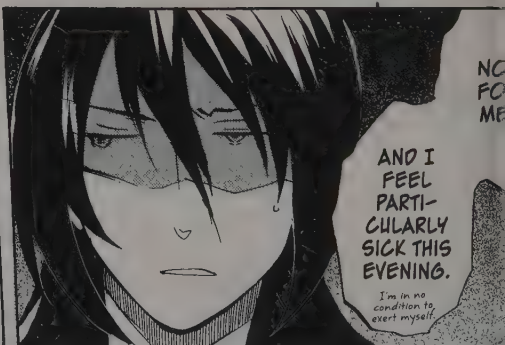
WE
DID A
CIRCLE
DANCE.

WERE
YOU A PART
OF THAT
EXTREMELY
LOUD
GROUP
DANCE?



SNIFF

NOW
THAT YOU
MENTION
IT, YOU
DO LOOK
A LITTLE
PALE.



AND I
FEEL
PARTI-
CULARLY
SICK THIS
EVENING.

*I'm in no
condition to
exert myself.*

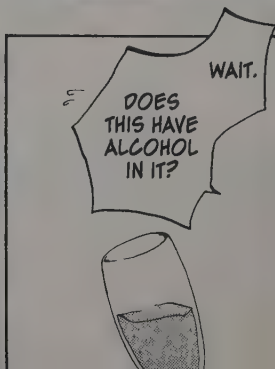
NO
FOR
ME



Cheers!

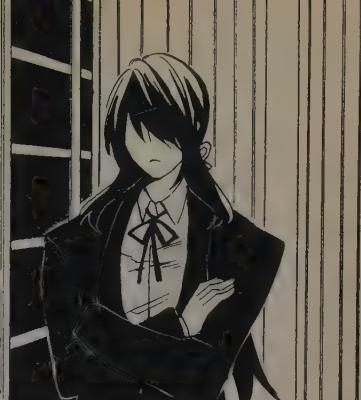
BOTTOMS
UP!

YUP!



WAIT.

DOES
THIS HAVE
ALCOHOL
IN IT?



I'M JUST
TAKING A
BREAK BE-
CAUSE I'M
THIRSTY.

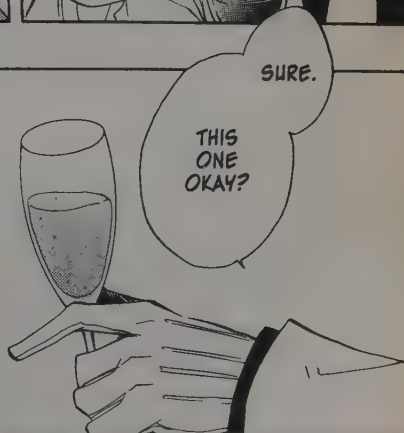


WEL-
COME
BACK,
ALICE.

ARE
YOU DONE
DANCING?



THAT'S
FINE--
THANK
YOU.



SURE.

THIS
ONE
OKAY?



BUT AS
I KEPT
DRINKING, I
SOBERED UP
A LITTLE.

So I'm trying
to get tipsy
again.

THAT'S
NOT TRUE.
WAS DRUNK
EARLIER.

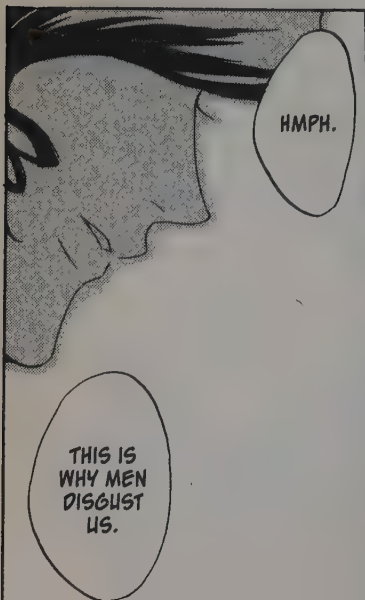
I HAVEN'T
DRANK LIKE
THIS IN A
WHILE,
SO I GOT
TIPSY RIGHT
AWAY...



OH.

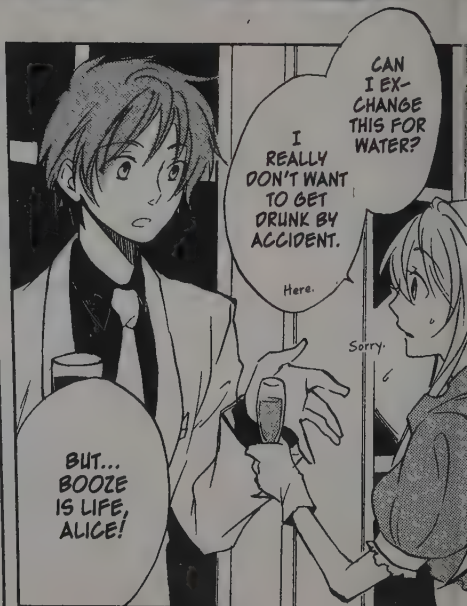
Then I
guess I don't
know what's
happening
to me.

THAT
DOESN'T
MAKE ANY
SENSE.



HMPH.

THIS IS
WHY MEN
DISGUST
US.



CAN
I EX-
CHANGE
THIS FOR
WATER?

I
REALLY
DON'T WANT
TO GET
DRUNK BY
ACCIDENT.

Here.

Sorry.

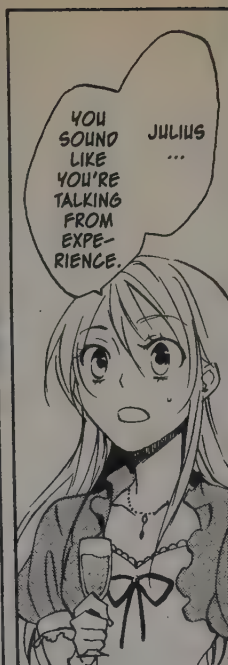
BUT...
BOOZE
IS LIFE,
ALICE!



THE EXPERIENCE OF ACCIDENTAL BINGE DRINKING, YES.

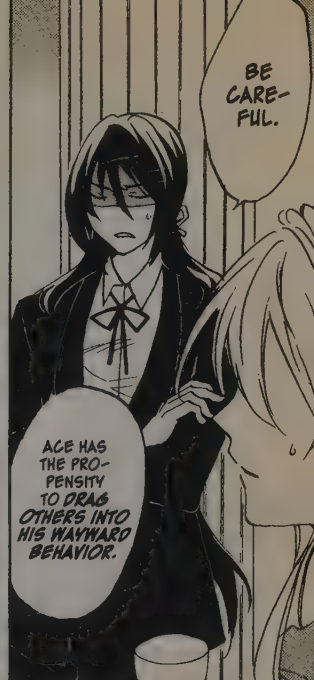
OH, LIGHTEN UP.

THAT'S WHAT PARTIES ARE FOR, JULIUS.



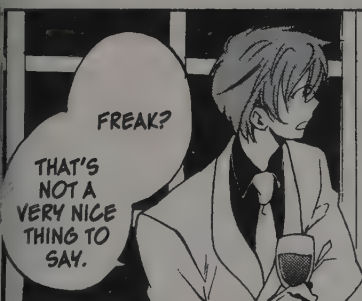
YOU SOUND LIKE YOU'RE TALKING FROM EXPERIENCE.

JULIUS ...



BE CAREFUL.

ACE HAS THE PROPENSITY TO DRAG OTHERS INTO HIS WAYWARD BEHAVIOR.



FREAK?

THAT'S NOT A VERY NICE THING TO SAY.



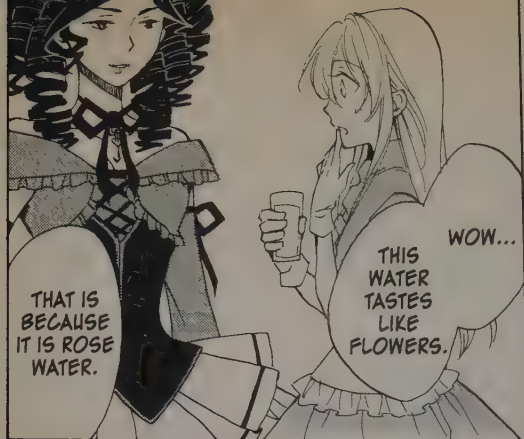
STOP TALKING. YOU'RE A FREAK OF NATURE.



THAT'S...A LOT OF ALCOHOL.

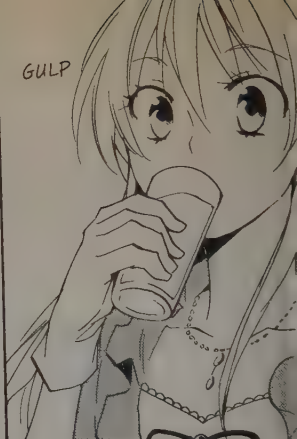
BY MY RECKONING, YOU SHOULD BE CHOKING ON YOUR OWN VOMIT BY NOW!

YOU'VE BEEN GUZZLING THAT BOOZE SINCE YOU WALKED THROUGH THESE DOORS AND YOU'RE NOT EVEN DRUNK,

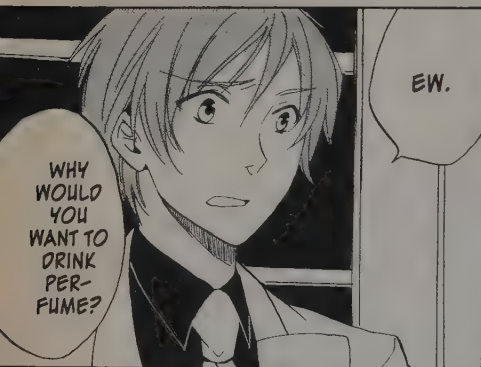


THAT IS BECAUSE IT IS ROSE WATER.

WOW...
THIS WATER TASTES LIKE FLOWERS.

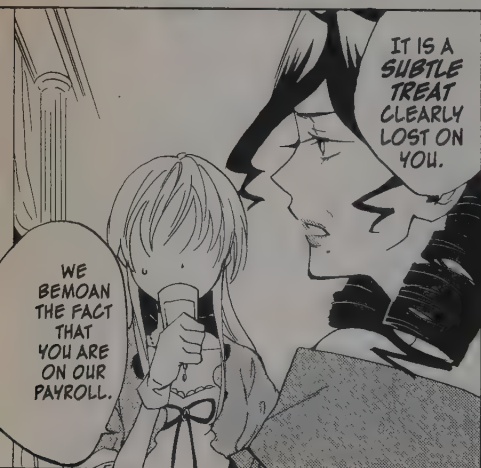


GULP



WHY WOULD YOU WANT TO DRINK PERFUME?

EW.



WE BEMOAN THE FACT THAT YOU ARE ON OUR PAYROLL.

IT IS A **SUBTLE TREAT** CLEARLY LOST ON YOU.



WE HAD THE SYRUP EXTRACTED FROM THE ROSES IN THE GARDEN.
DOES IT NOT SMELL HEAVENLY?

YES. IT'S LOVELY!



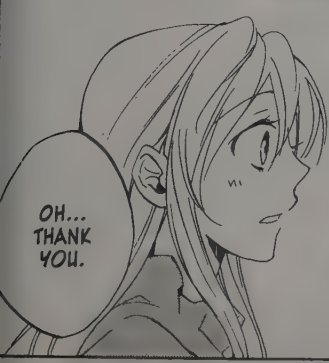
THEY
NOT ONLY
PARTAKE
IN RISKY
BEHAVIORAL
CHOICES...

...THEY TRY TO
FORCE THEIR
DEVIAN'T WAYS
ON OTHERS.



HOW
UNSEEMLY.

VIVALDI!

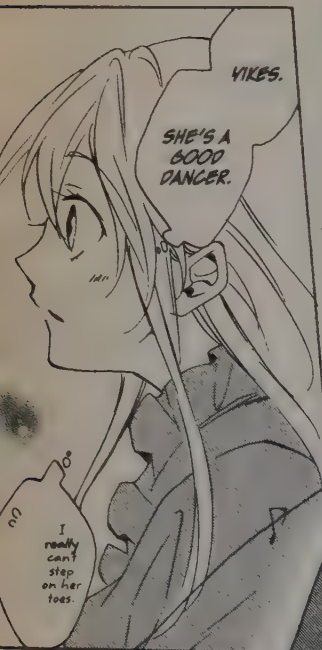


OH...
THANK
YOU.



ALLOW
US, ALICE.

WE'VE
BROUGHT
YOU A
DRINK.



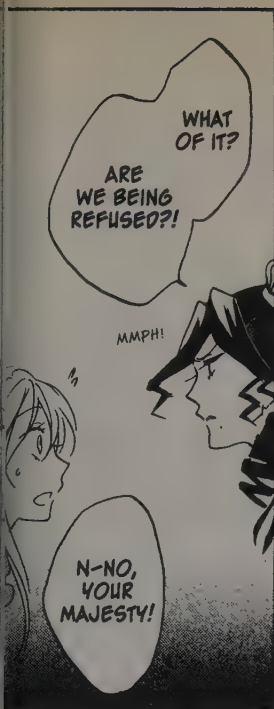
VIKES.

SHE'S A
GOOD
DANCER.

I
really
can't
step
on her
toes.



AND HER
PERFUME
SMELLS LIKE
ROSES TOO.



WHAT
OF IT?

ARE
WE BEING
REFUSED?!

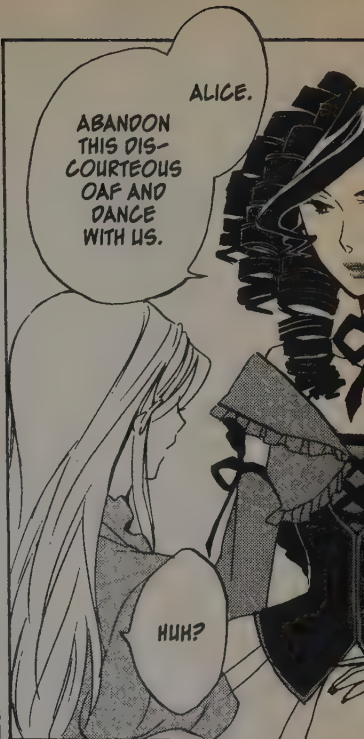
MMPH!

N-NO,
YOUR
MAJESTY!



BUT...YOU'RE
THE QUEEN.
DON'T YOU
HAVE MORE
IMPORTANT
PEOPLE TO
DANCE WITH?

AND
WE'RE
BOTH
WOMEN...



ALICE.

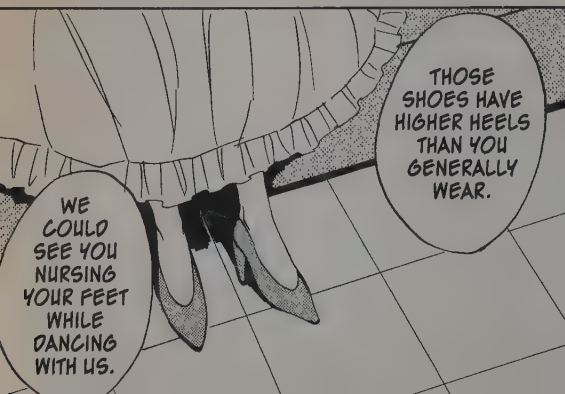
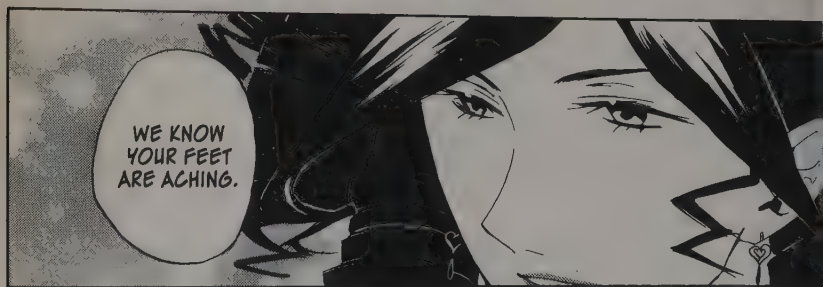
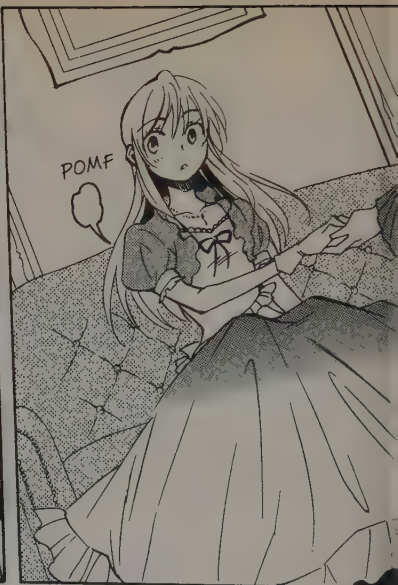
ABANDON
THIS DIS-
COURTEOUS
OAF AND
DANCE
WITH US.

HUH?



EXCELLENT.

YOU
HAVE
PLEASED
US.



LIKE
ROYALTY
FROM A
FAIRYTALE...

AL-
READY?

I'M
SORRY,
I'M NOT
VERY
GOOD.

ALICE.

NOW
WE
SHALL
REST.

SIT
ON THAT
COUCH.

RE-
GARDLESS.
THIS WAY.

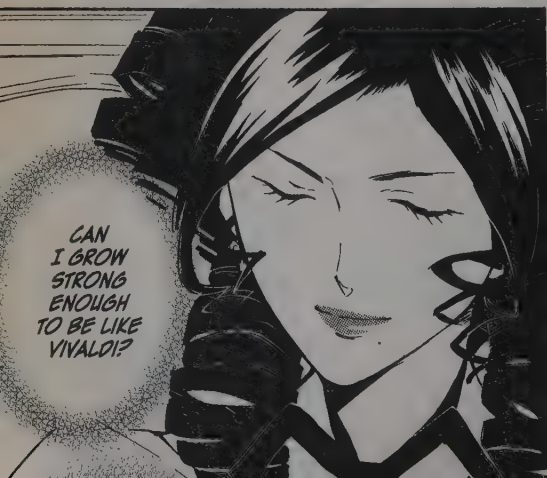


THE MOST
IMPORTANT TRAIT
YOU SHOULD SEEK
IS THE STRENGTH
WITHIN YOUR-
SELF.

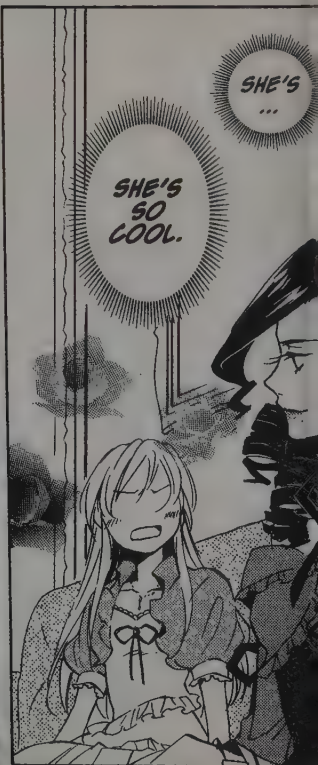
WE ADVISE
THAT YOU NOT
LOSE YOUR
HEAD OVER
A MALE.



SHE'S SO
COLLECTED AND
INDEPENDENT.



CAN
I GROW
STRONG
ENOUGH
TO BE LIKE
VIVALDI?



SHE'S
...

SHE'S
SO
COOL.



WE
FEEL
YOUR
PAIN.

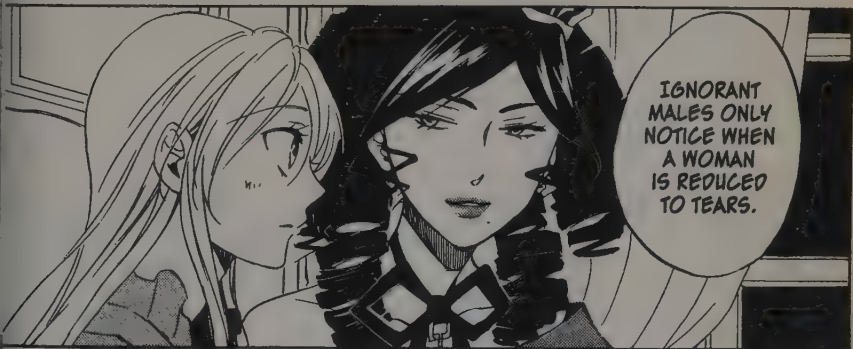
WE ARE
SYMPATHETIC
TO THE BURDEN
OF SOCIALLY-
MANDATED
HIGH HEELS.



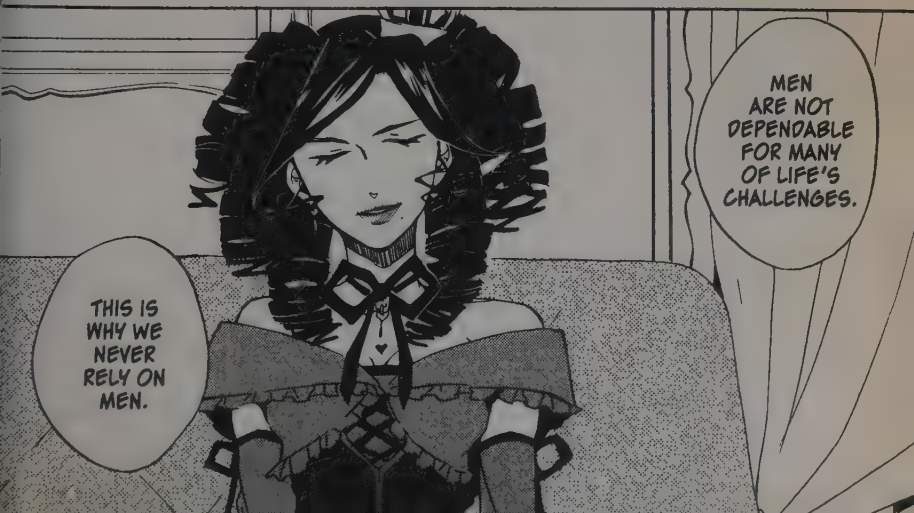
...BUT I
DIDN'T MIND
IGNORING IT. I
LIKE DANCING
WITH YOU.

I'VE LOST
A LITTLE
FEELING IN
MY FEET...

I
GUESS
I WAS.

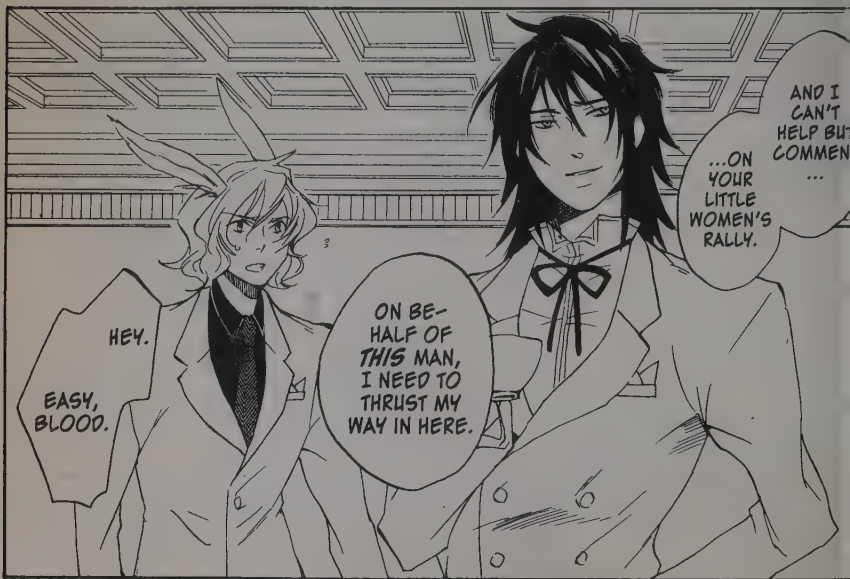
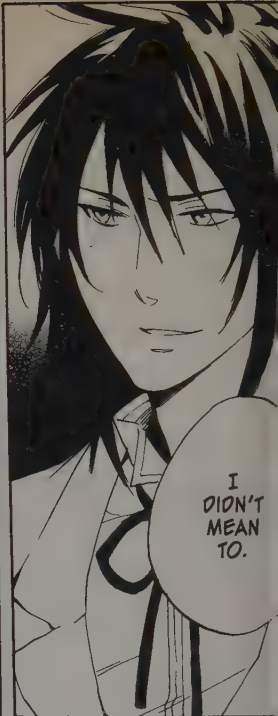


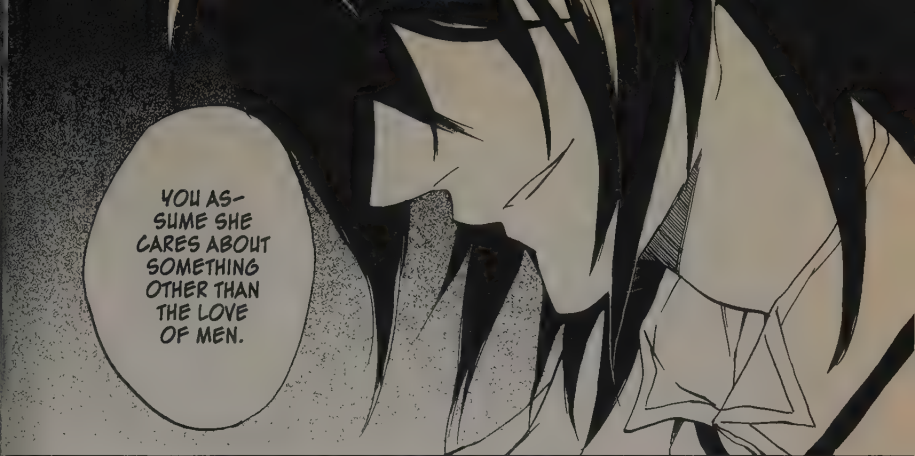
IGNORANT
MALES ONLY
NOTICE WHEN
A WOMAN
IS REDUCED
TO TEARS.



THIS IS
WHY WE
NEVER
RELY ON
MEN.

MEN
ARE NOT
DEPENDABLE
FOR MANY
OF LIFE'S
CHALLENGES.

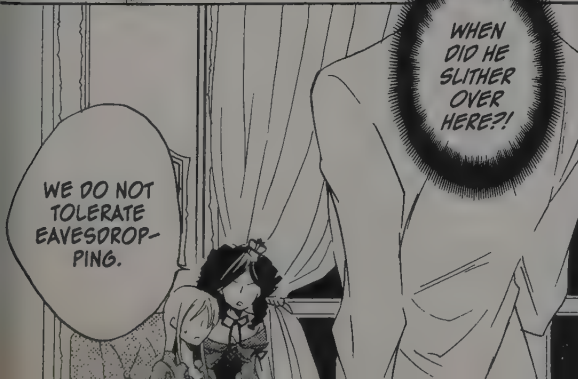




YOU AS-
SUME SHE
CARES ABOUT
SOMETHING
OTHER THAN
THE LOVE
OF MEN.



BLOOD!



WE DO NOT
TOLERATE
EAVESDROP-
PING.

WHEN
DID HE
SLITHER
OVER
HERE?!



AND SHE
DEFINITELY
DOESN'T HAVE
THE NERVES OF
OUR QUEEN.

BUT IF
THAT'S THE
CASE...



...THEN WHAT
WERE THEY
DOING IN
THE ROSE
GARDEN?

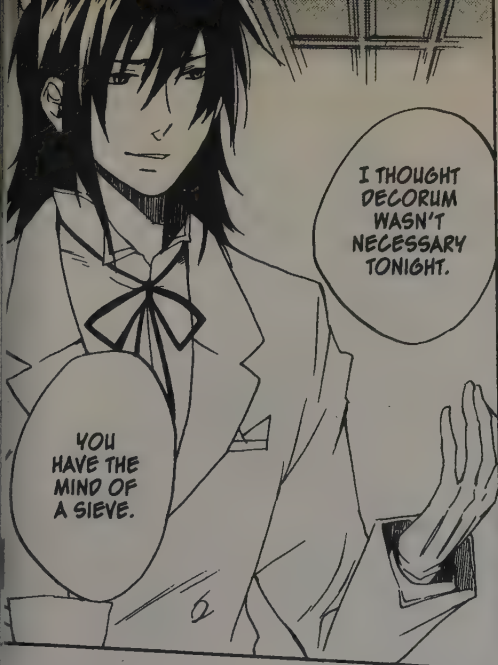


PETER TRIED
TO CONVINCE
ME THAT I WAS
SEEING THINGS...



"SHE AND
BLOOD DUPRE
IN PARTICULAR
TRY TO KILL EACH
OTHER WHEN
THEY MEET."

"I CAN'T
IMAGINE
THEM ACTING
AS FRIENDS."



I THOUGHT
DECORUM
WASN'T
NECESSARY
TONIGHT.

YOU
HAVE THE
MIND OF
A SIEVE.



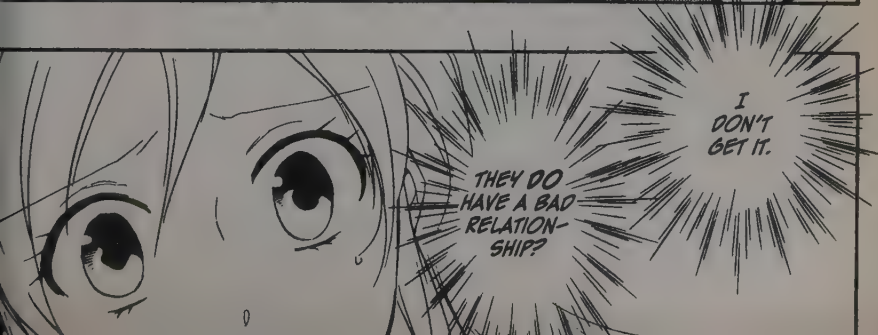
KNOW
YOUR
PLACE,
INSOLENT
MALE!



VIVALDI,
CALM
DOWN.

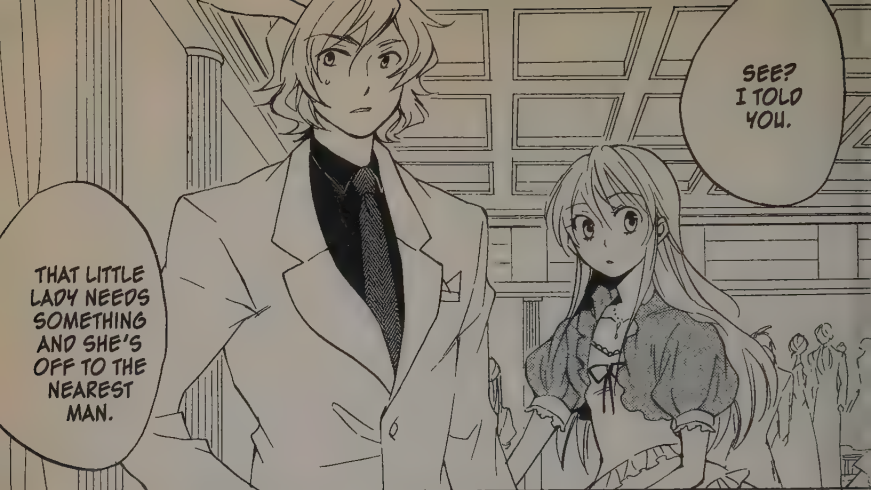
He's
trying to
bait you!

RRR!
RRR!
WERE THIS
NIGHT NOT
PEACEFUL,
YOUR HEAD
WOULD BE
ROLLING
FOR THIS!



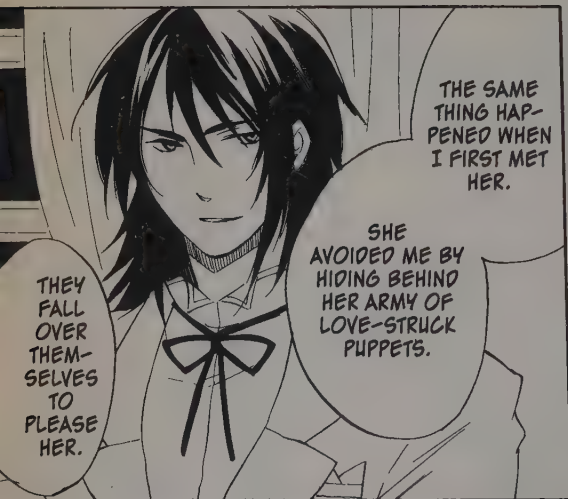
THEY DO
HAVE A BAD
RELATION-
SHIP?

I
DON'T
GET IT.



THAT LITTLE
LADY NEEDS
SOMETHING
AND SHE'S
OFF TO THE
NEAREST
MAN.

SEE?
I TOLD
YOU.



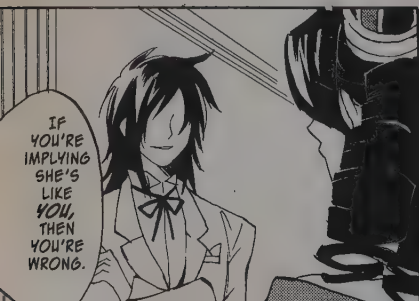
THEY
FALL
OVER
THEM-
SELVES
TO
PLEASE
HER.

THE SAME
THING HAP-
PENED WHEN
I FIRST MET
HER.

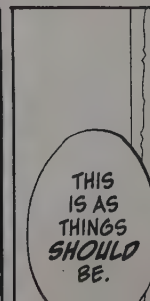
SHE
AVOIDED ME BY
HIDING BEHIND
HER ARMY OF
LOVE-STRUCK
PUPPETS.



WHAT.



IF
YOU'RE
IMPLYING
SHE'S
LIKE
YOU,
THEN
YOU'RE
WRONG.



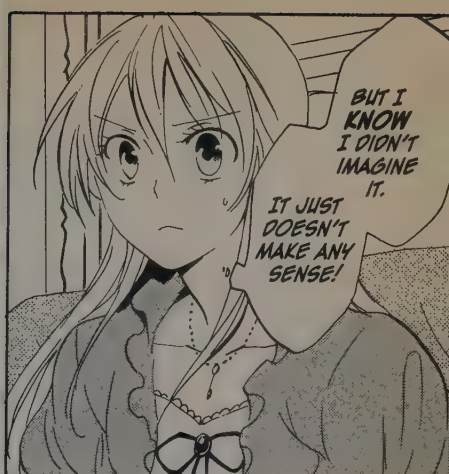
THIS
IS AS
THINGS
SHOULD
BE.

YO
CLA
SHE
DOMIN
OVER
MAL



I CAN'T
DWELL ON
THAT RIGHT
NOW.

I HAVE
TO CALM
THEM DOWN
BEFORE THEY
KILL EACH
OTHER!



BUT I
KNOW
I DIDN'T
IMAGINE
IT.

IT JUST
DOESN'T
MAKE ANY
SENSE!



ELLIOT!



CAN YOU
MEDIATE?
PLEASE?!

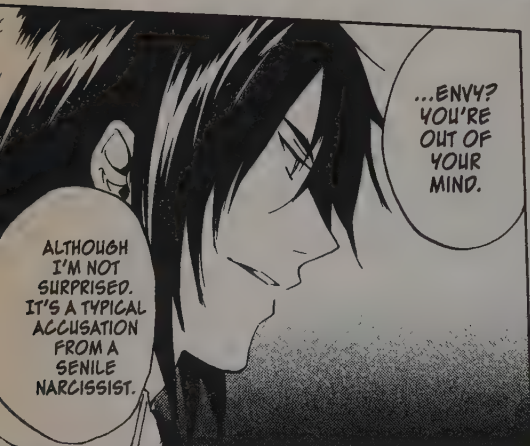
UH...

I CAN
TRY.



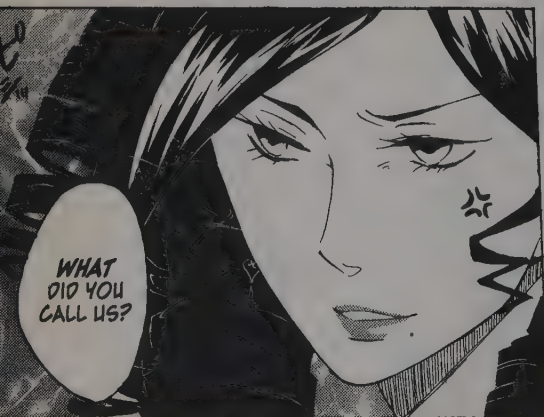
YOUR
PATHETIC ENVY
REDUCES YOU
TO A CHILD,
PROVOKING
THE OBJECT
OF YOUR
AFFECTION.

ALICE
AVOIDS YOU
BECAUSE SHE
HATES YOU
YOU ARE THE
EXCEPTION
HER KINDNESS!

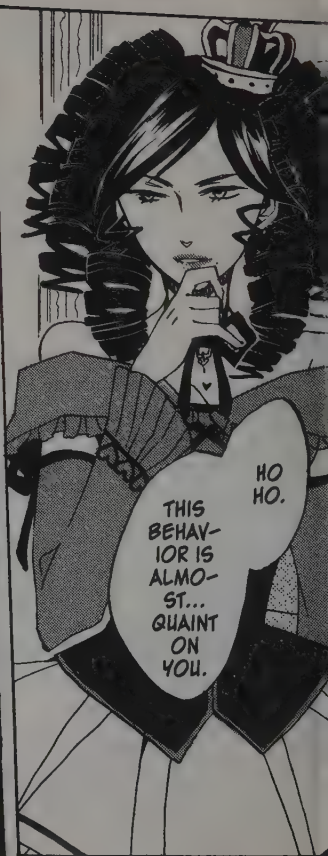


ALTHOUGH
I'M NOT
SURPRISED.
IT'S A TYPICAL
ACCUSATION
FROM A
SENILE
NARCISST.

...ENVY?
YOU'RE
OUT OF
YOUR
MIND.

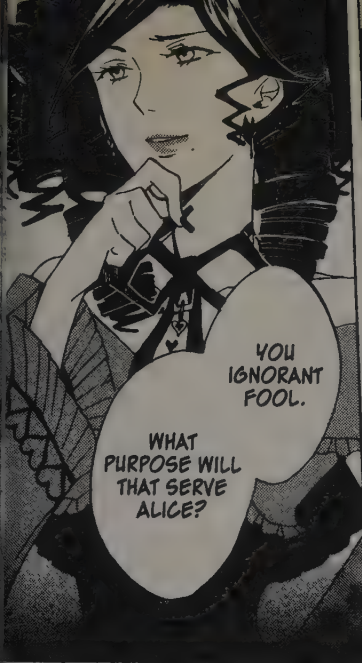


WHAT
DID YOU
CALL US?



THIS
BEHAV-
IOR IS
ALMO-
ST...
QUAINT
ON
YOU.

HO
HO.



YOU
IGNORANT
FOOL.

WHAT
PURPOSE WILL
THAT SERVE
ALICE?



HEH.

HA!

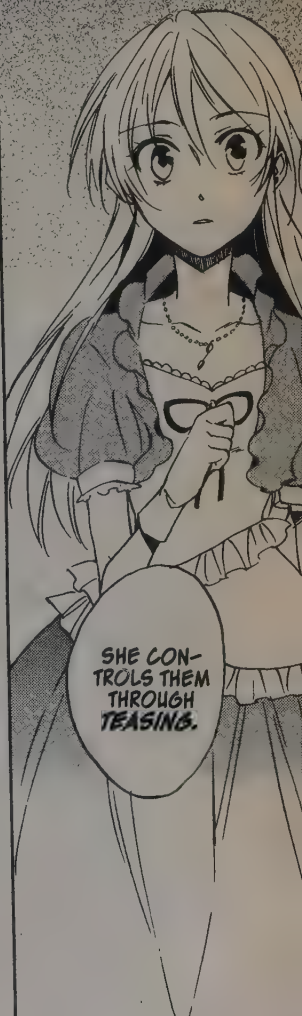
HA
HA!

SHE
USES HER
ALLURE AS AN
OUTSIDER TO
MANIPULATE
EVERYONE.



TWITCH

SHE'S
NOT LIKE
US? SHE'S
NOT LIKE
YOU.
AND IT
APPEARS
TO US THAT
YOU ARE
JEALOUS.



SHE CON-
TROLS THEM
THROUGH
TEASING.



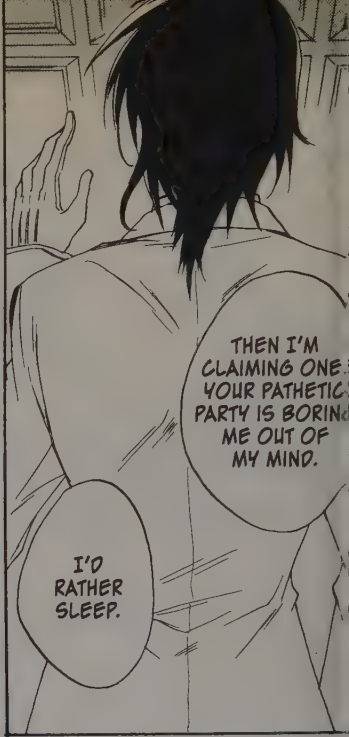
OH!

I WAS
LOOKING
FOR YOU,
VIVALDI.

MISO-
GYNIST
CUR.

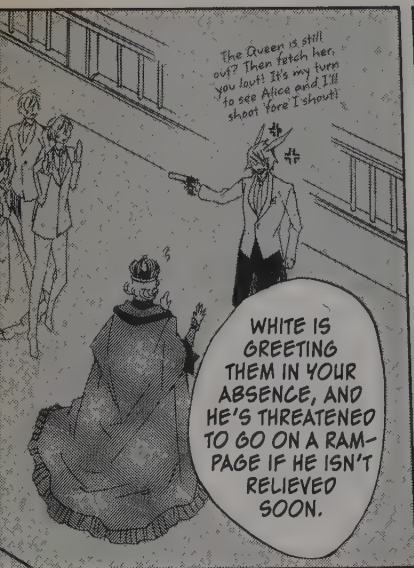


HE IS THE
ENEMY OF
WOMEN!



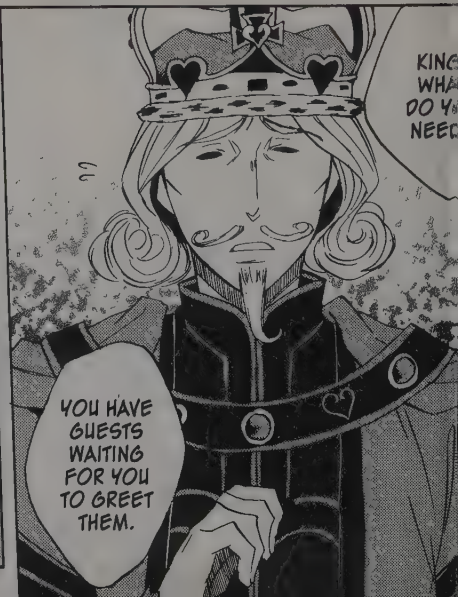
THEN I'M
CLAIMING ONE.
YOUR PATHETIC
PARTY IS BORING.
ME OUT OF
MY MIND.

I'D
RATHER
SLEEP.



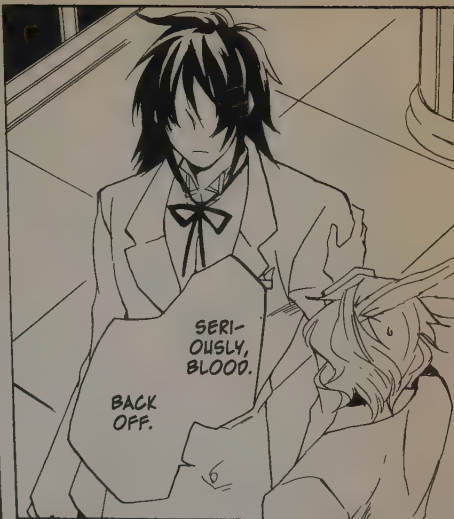
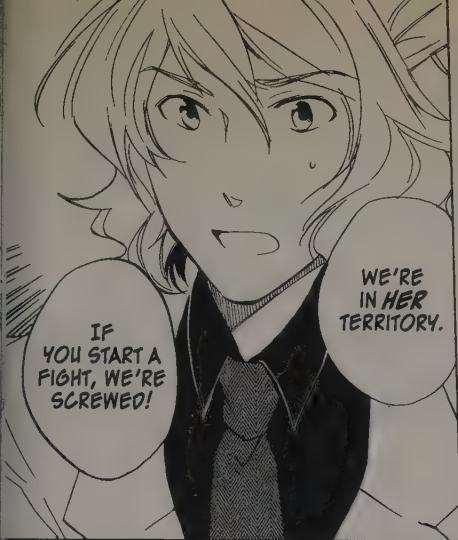
The Queen is still
out? Then fetch her,
you love! It's my turn
to see Alice and I'll
shoot 'fore I shout!

WHITE IS
GREETING
THEM IN YOUR
ABSENCE, AND
HE'S THREATENED
TO GO ON A RAM-
PAGE IF HE ISN'T
RELIEVED
SOON.



KING
WHAT
DO YOU
NEED

YOU HAVE
GUESTS
WAITING
FOR YOU
TO GREET
THEM.



GRR

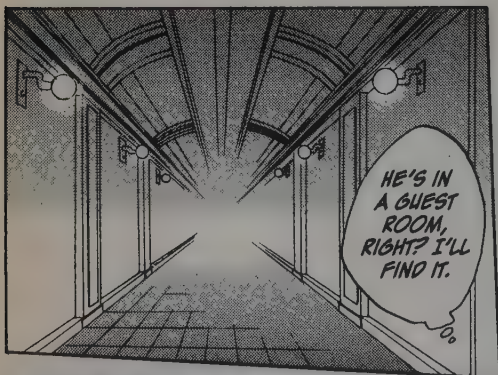
I'M SICK
AND TIRED
OF BEING
TREATED LIKE
GARBAGE.

GRR

IF
HE DOESN'T
LIKE ME, OR
HE THINKS I'M
SOME SORT OF
FLIRT, I REALLY
DON'T CARE.

BUT WHY
CAN'T HE
EVEN BE
CIVIL TO
ME?

It's
ridiculous!



HE'S IN
A GUEST
ROOM,
RIGHT? I'LL
FIND IT.

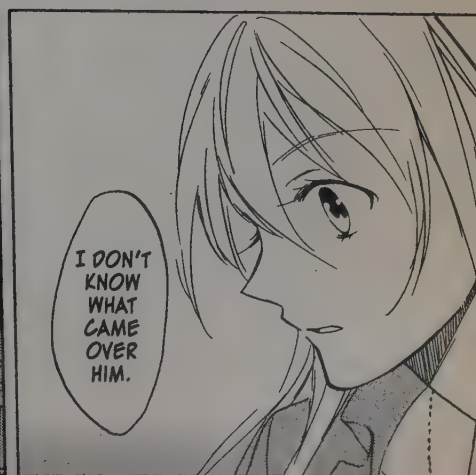
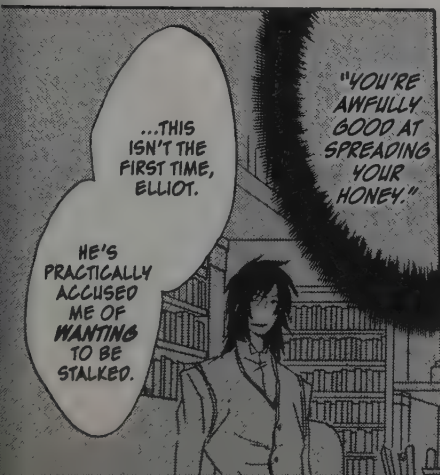


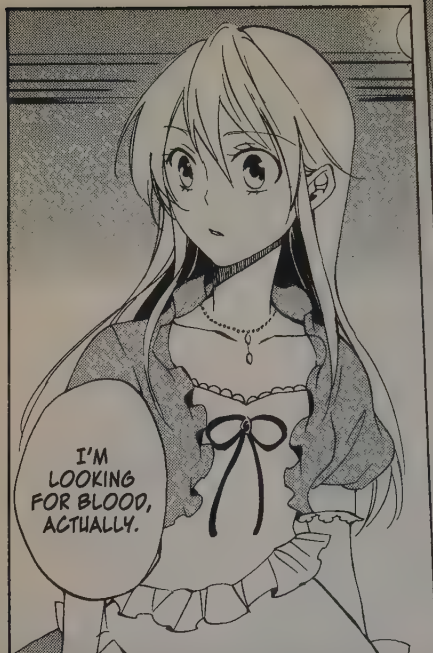
クッ



I'M NOT
RUNNING
AWAY ANY-
MORE. I'M
SETTLING
THIS ONCE
AND FOR
ALL!

ALICE,
WAIT!





I'M
LOOKING
FOR BLOOD,
ACTUALLY.



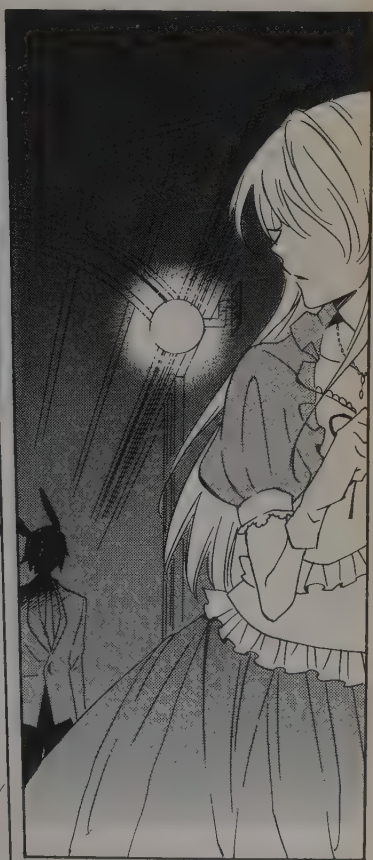
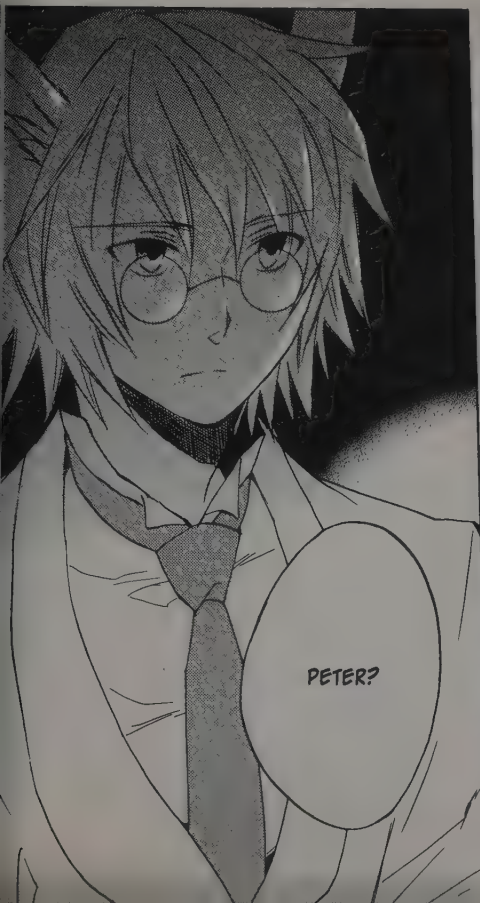
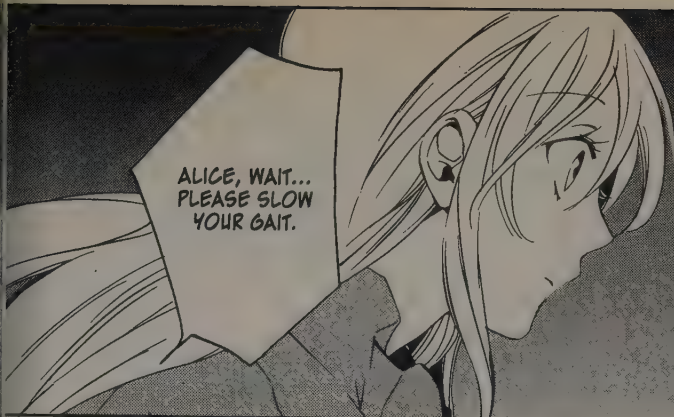
ALICE...

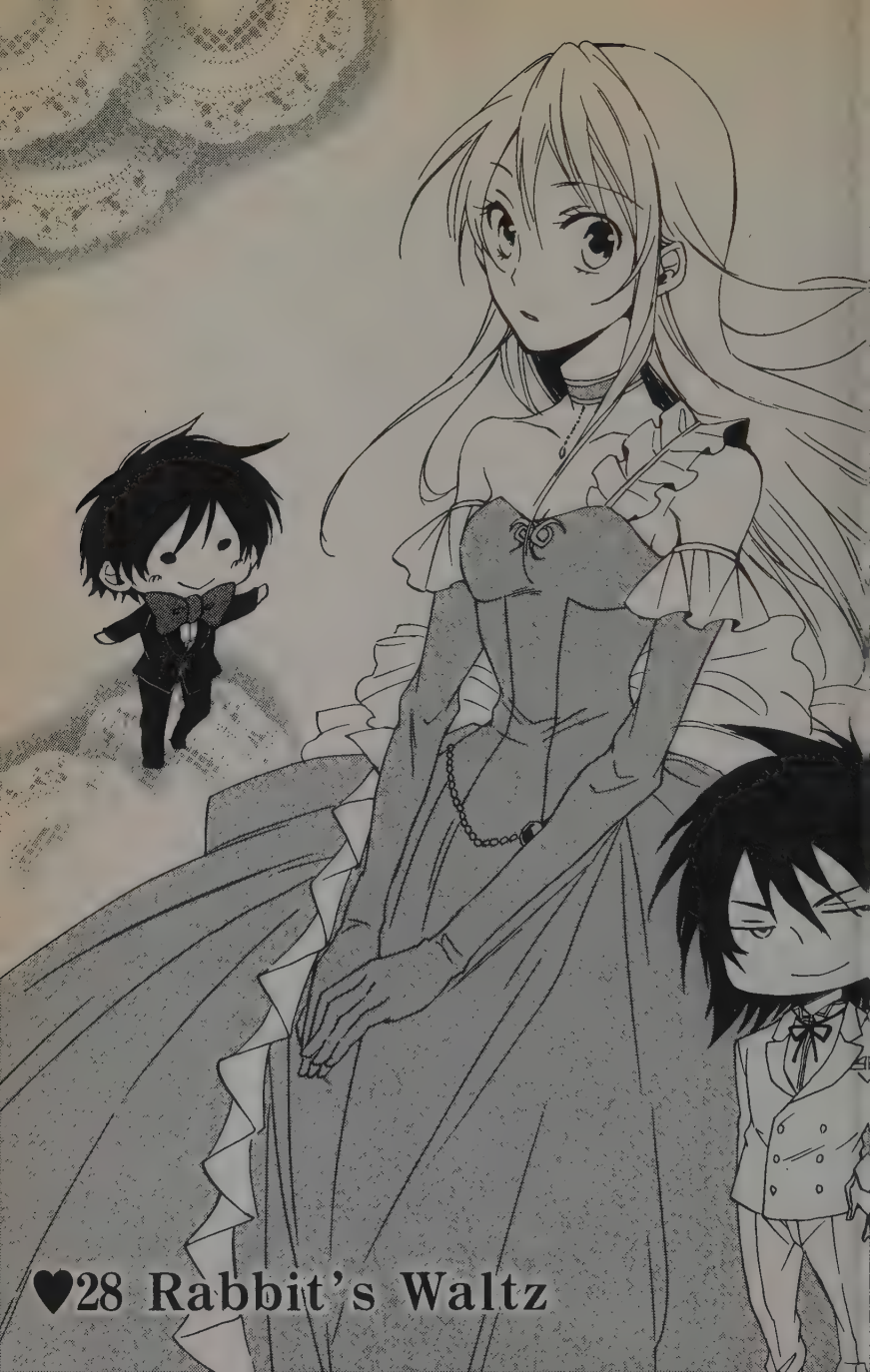
WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING?



BLOOD...

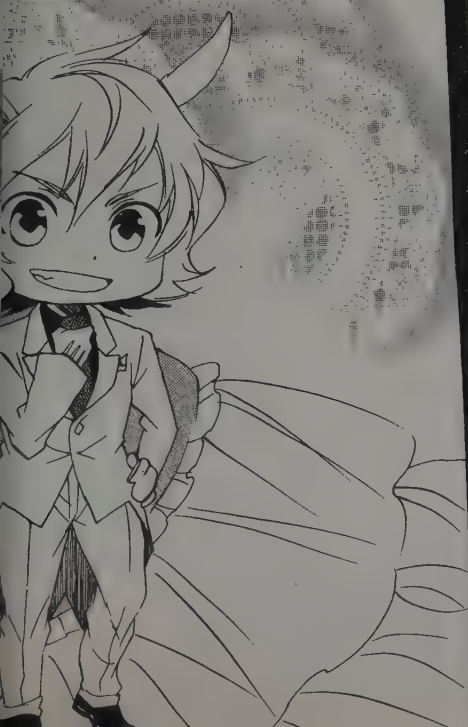
WHAT'S GOING
ON? PETER
SEEMS ODD...







YOU'RE
LOOKING
FOR BLOOD
DUPRE?





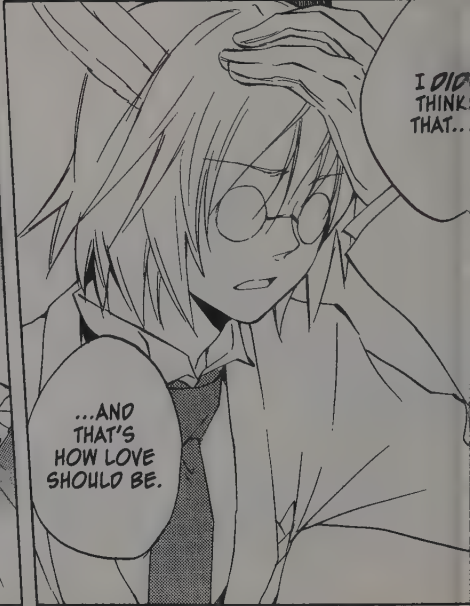
I
WANTED YOU
TO COME TO
THIS WORLD.

I THOUGHT
I WOULD BE
SATISFIED AS
LONG AS YOU
STAYED HERE,
WHETHER OR
NOT YOU WERE
BY MY SIDE.



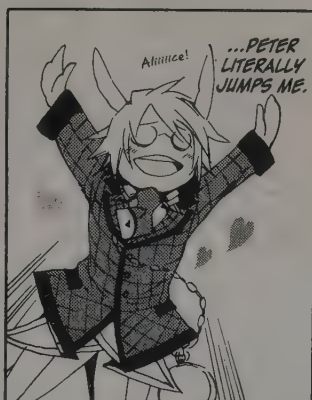
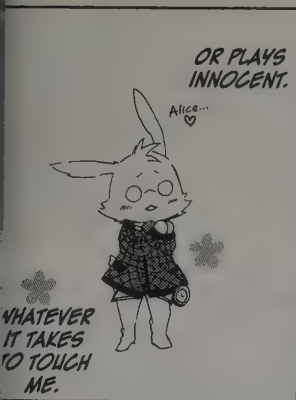
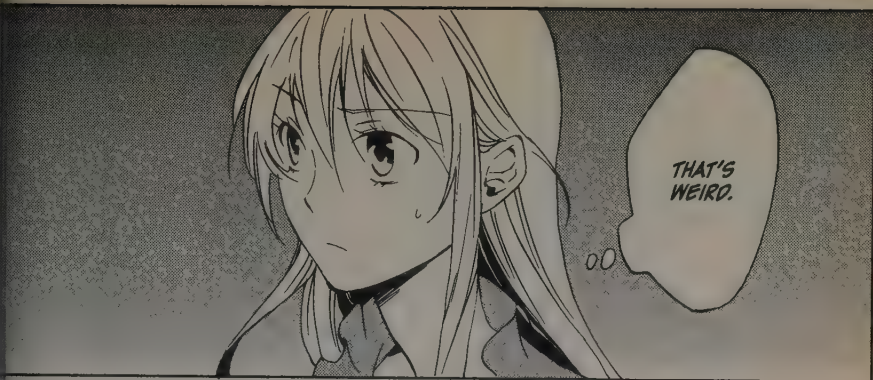
BUT
NOW I'M
SO CON-
FLICTED...
PLEASE,
HELP ME.

HUH?

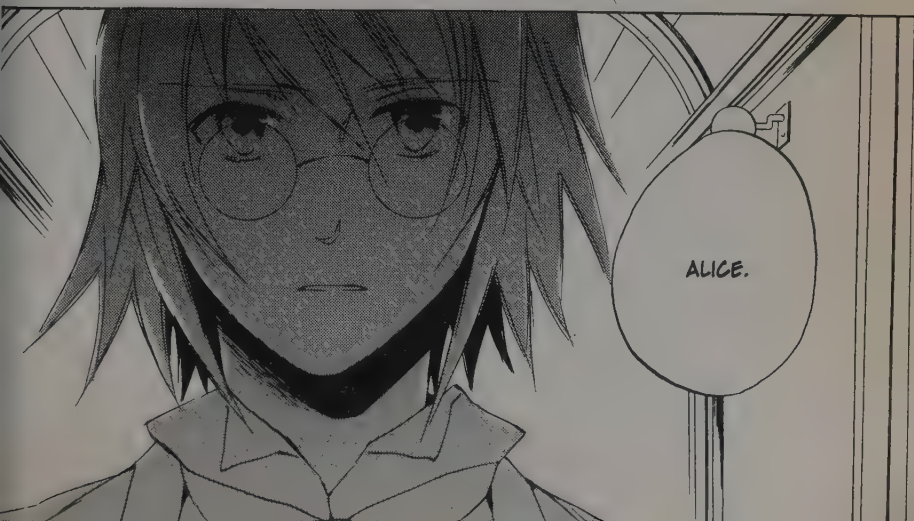


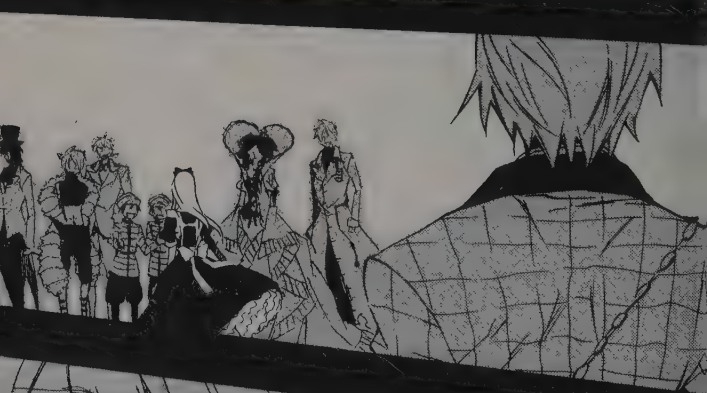
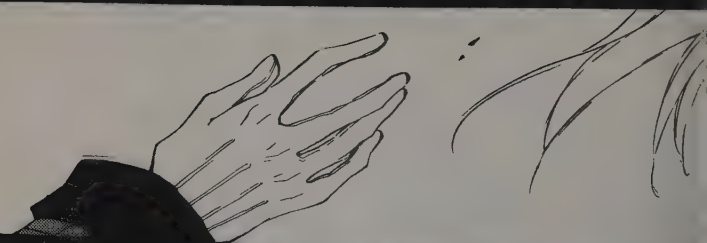
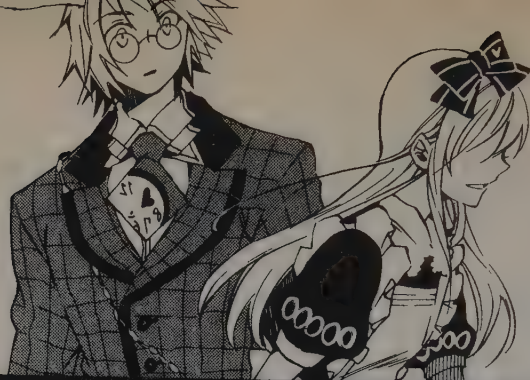
I DID
THINK...
THAT...

...AND
THAT'S
HOW LOVE
SHOULD BE.



MOST OF THE TIME...

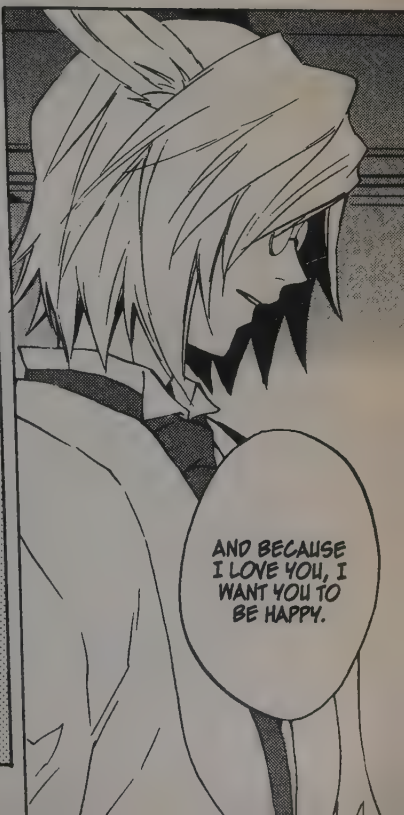




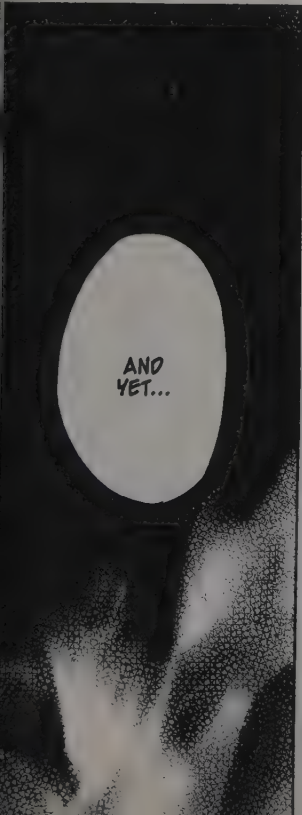


ALICE...

...I LOVE
YOU.



YOUR
HAPPINESS
IS ALL I
NEED.

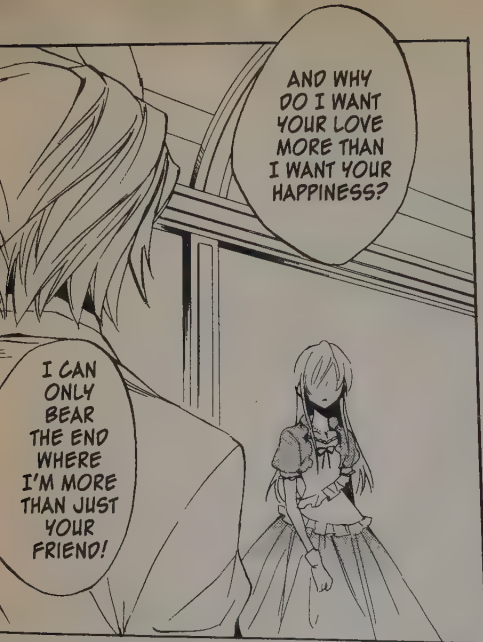


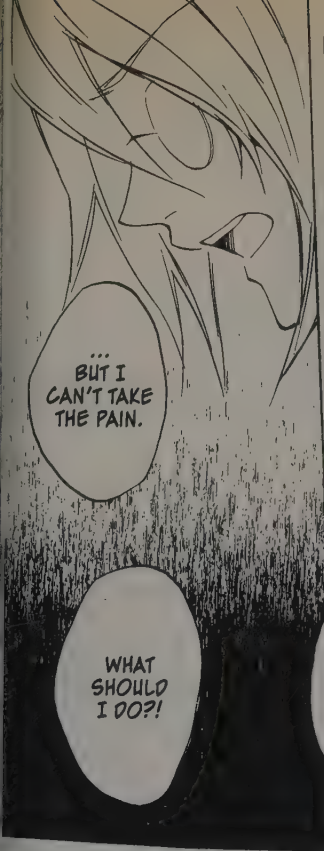
AND
YET...



WITH THAT
WISH ALONE,
I BROUGHT
YOU TO THIS
PLACE.

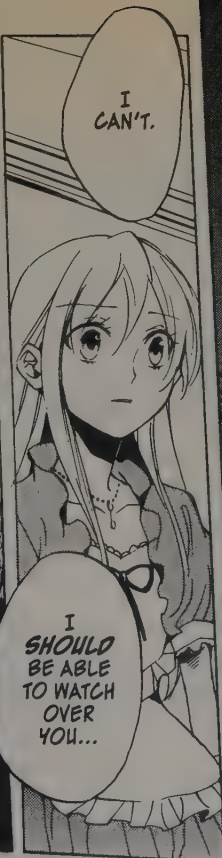
AND BECAUSE
I LOVE YOU, I
WANT YOU TO
BE HAPPY.





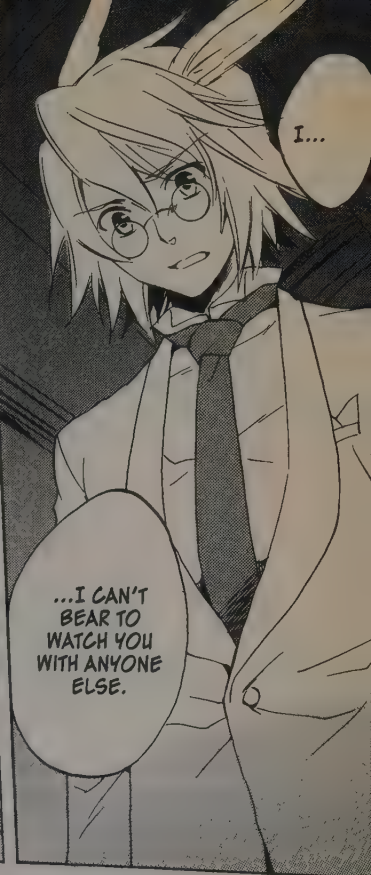
...
BUT I
CAN'T TAKE
THE PAIN.

WHAT
SHOULD
I DO?!



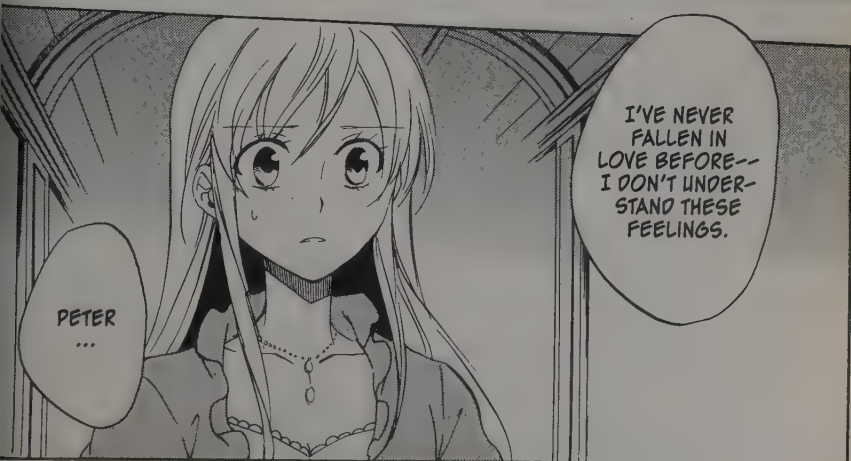
I
CAN'T.

I
SHOULD
BE ABLE
TO WATCH
OVER
YOU...



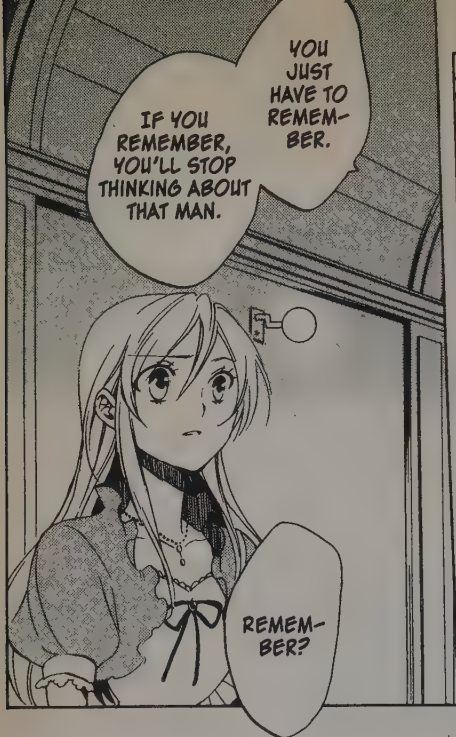
I...

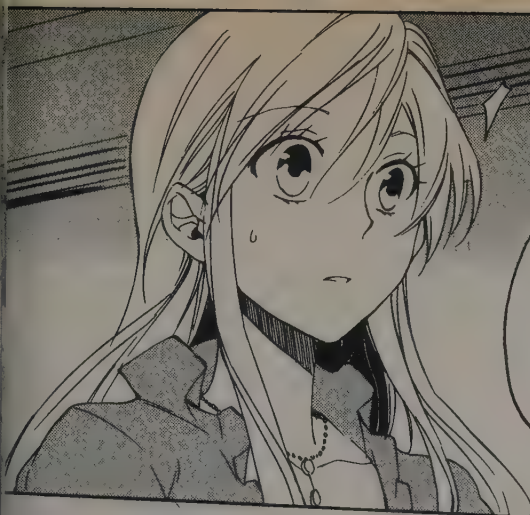
...I CAN'T
BEAR TO
WATCH YOU
WITH ANYONE
ELSE.



PETER
...

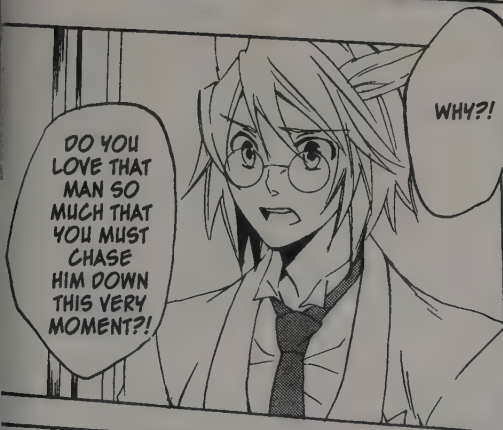
I'VE NEVER
FALLEN IN
LOVE BEFORE--
I DON'T UNDER-
STAND THESE
FEELINGS.





BUT WHY
ARE YOU
CHASING
AFTER
BLOOD
DUPRE?!

LEAVE HIM!
RETURN TO
THE BALL
WITH ME!



WHY?!

DO YOU
LOVE THAT
MAN SO
MUCH THAT
YOU MUST
CHASE
HIM DOWN
THIS VERY
MOMENT?!



ARE YOU
KIDDING?
I DON'T
LOVE
HIM!
MY
FEEL-
INGS
FOR
HIM ARE
CLOSER
TO
HATE!



I
CAN'T
LEAVE
YET.

I
NEED TO
TALK TO
HIM, AND
IT HAS TO
BE NOW.

*YOUR
PRECIOUS...*

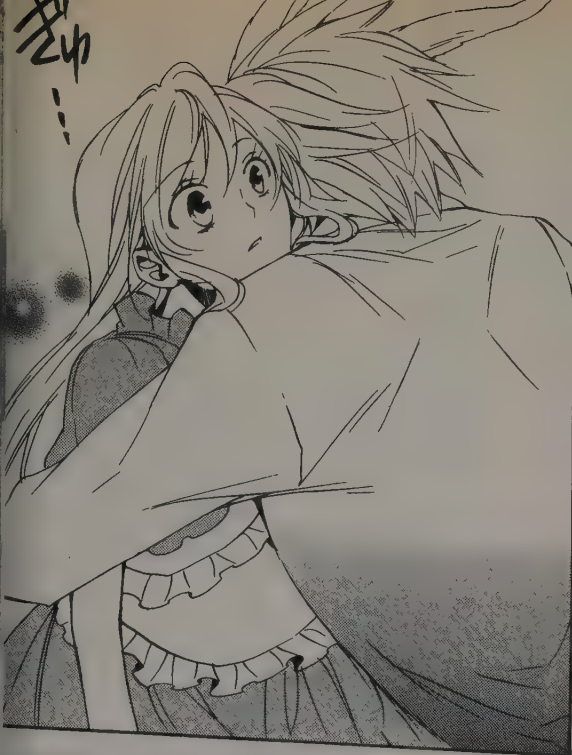


*...MET PETER
BEFORE?*

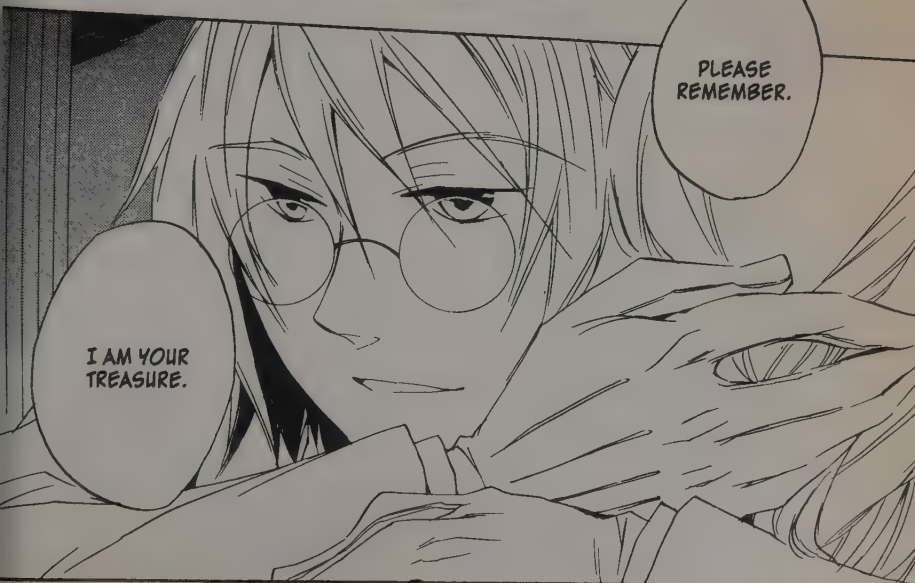
HAVE I...

*BEFORE COMING
TO THIS WORLD?*





PETER
AND...
ME?



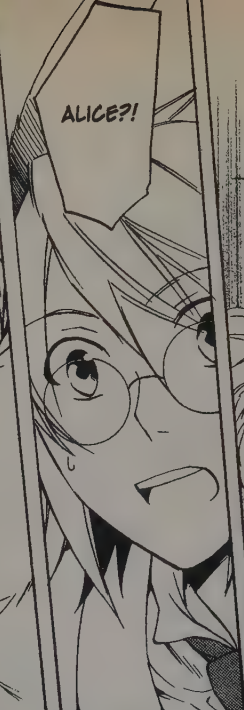
I AM YOUR
TREASURE.

PLEASE
REMEMBER.



M-MY
HEAD!

IT...
HURTS
!



ALICE?!



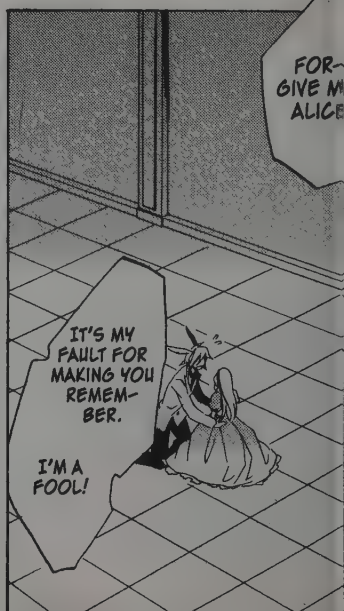
OH!

WOW...



PLEASE
DON'T
FRET.

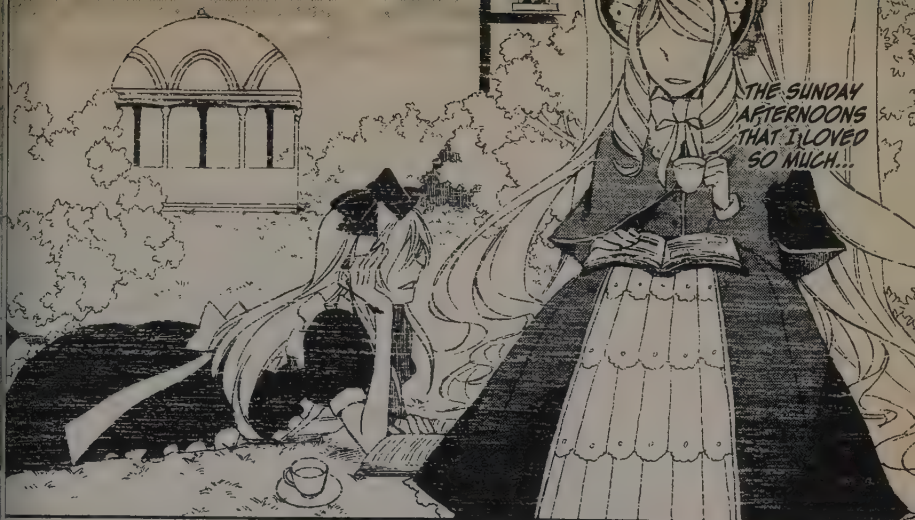
IT'S ALL
RIGHT TO
FORGET!



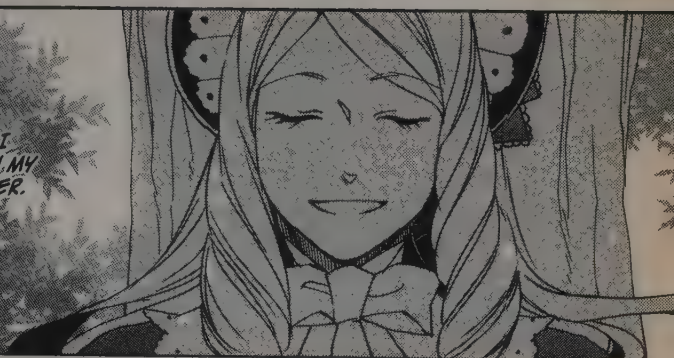
FOR-
GIVE ME
ALICE

IT'S MY
FAULT FOR
MAKING YOU
REMEM-
BER.

I'M A
FOOL!



THE TIME I
SHARED WITH MY
OLDER SISTER.



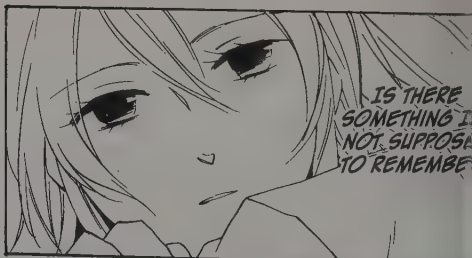
AND PETER
WAS...

BRACK

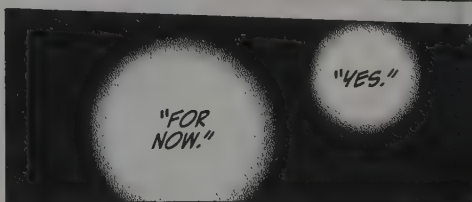
WHAT'S...
HAPPENING?

I'M SORRY
FOR MAKING
YOU SUFFER!

I'M SORRY,
ALICE!

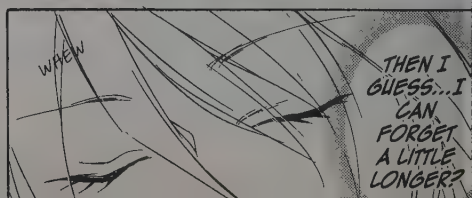


IS THERE
SOMETHING I
NOT SUPPOSE
TO REMEMBER



"FOR
NOW."

"YES."



WHEW

THEN I
GUESS... I
CAN
FORGET
A LITTLE
LONGER?



THAT'S
RIGHT.

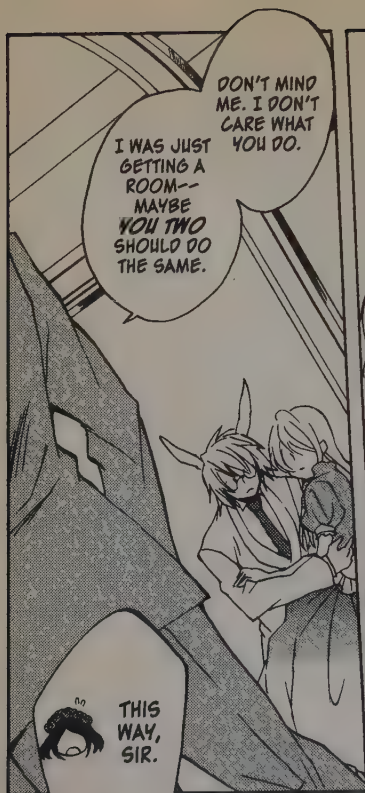
I WARNED
YOU, PETER
WHITE.



YOU HAVE TO
MAKE HER
FORGET.



YOU CAN'T
LET HER
REMEMBER.



I WAS JUST
GETTING A
ROOM--
MAYBE
YOU TWO
SHOULD DO
THE SAME.

DON'T MIND
ME. I DON'T
CARE WHAT
YOU DO.

THIS
WAY,
SIR.



HEY!

STOP
ACCUSING
ME OF--



IMPRESSIVE,
YOUNG
LADY.



NO!

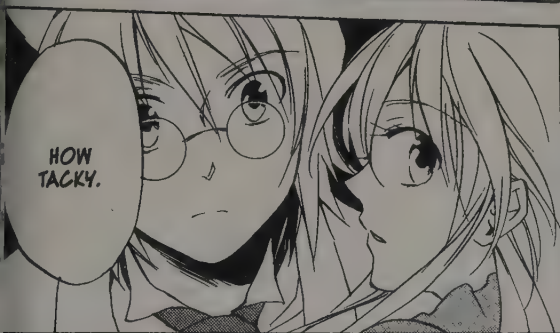
I'M NOT
LETTING
THIS GO!



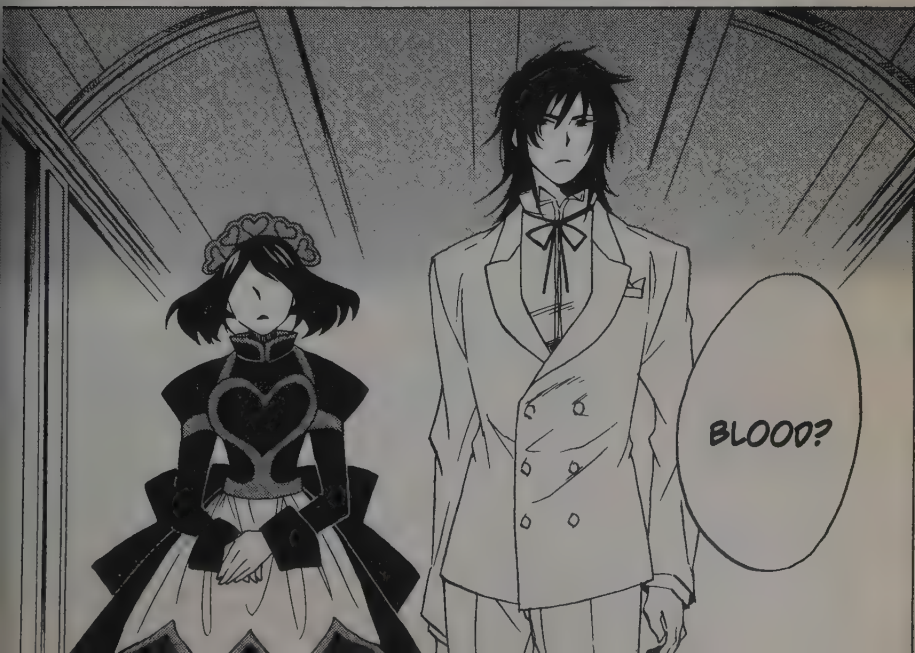
AND IN THE
MIDDLE OF
A PUBLIC
HALLWAY.



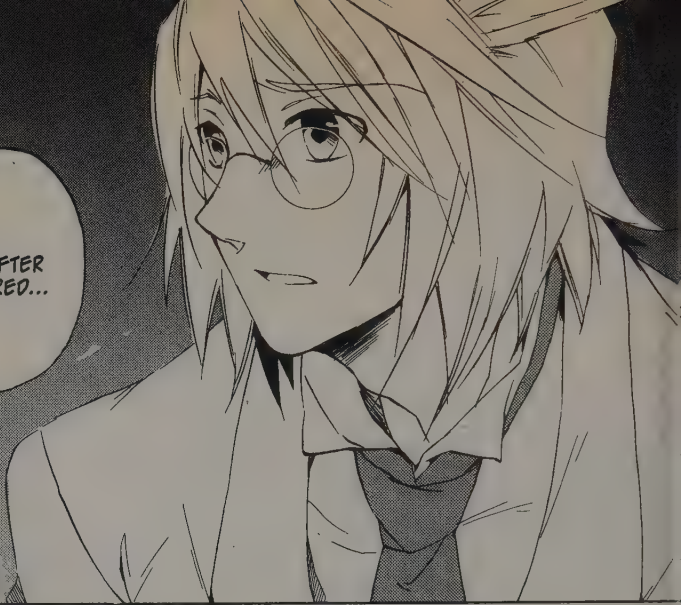
YOU KEEP
PROVING
ME RIGHT.



HOW
TACKY.



BLOOD?

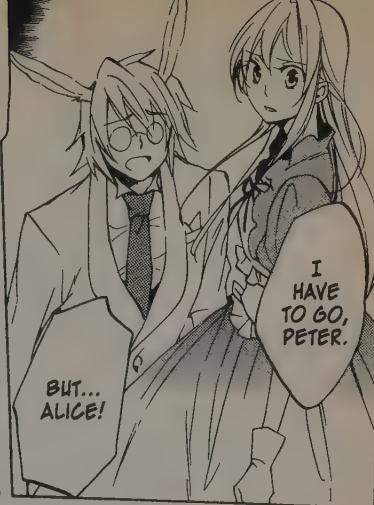
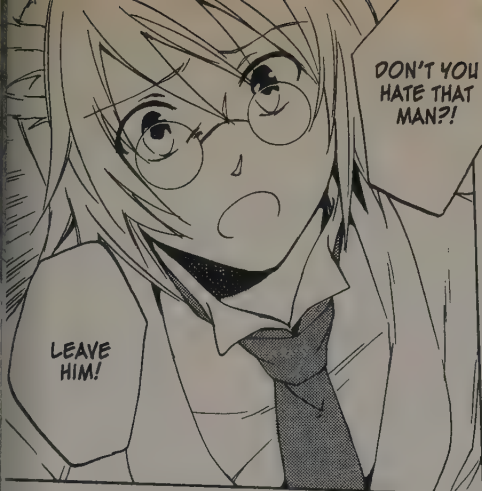


EVEN AFTER
HE LEERED...



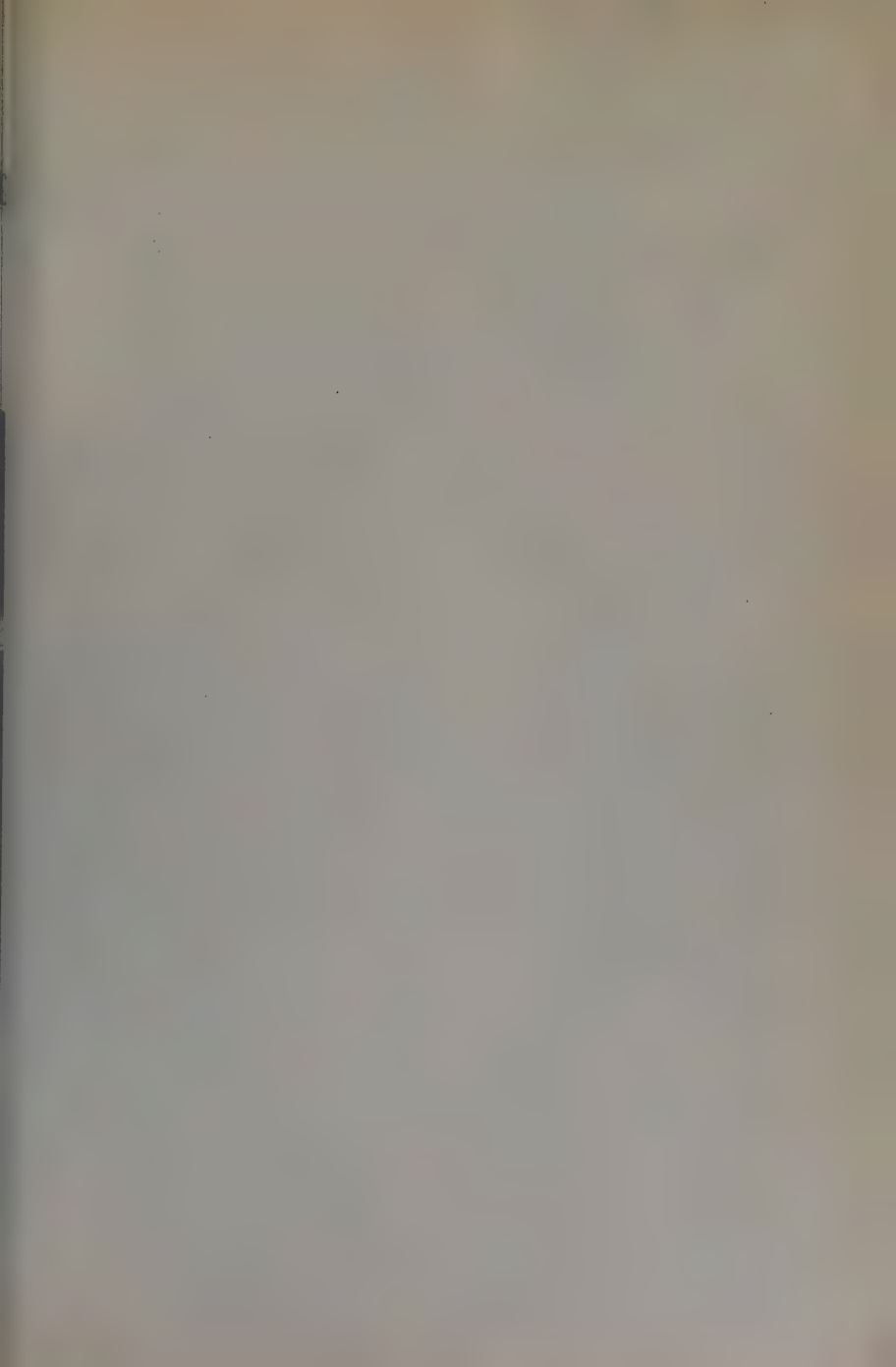
IT'S
JUST
AS I
FEARED.

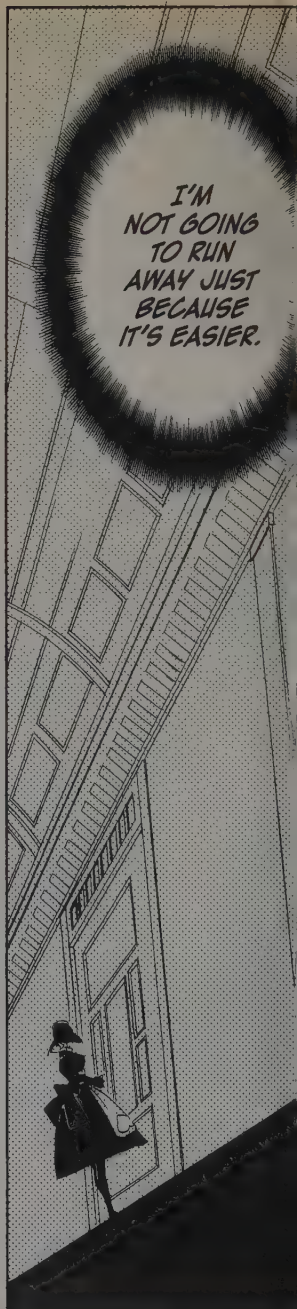
ALICE
IS..



♥ 29 Serenade







I SHOULDN'T
CARE WHAT BLOOD
THINKS, ESPECIALLY
SINCE HE'S WRONG
ABOUT ME.

AND I
DON'T
CARE. NOT
REALLY.

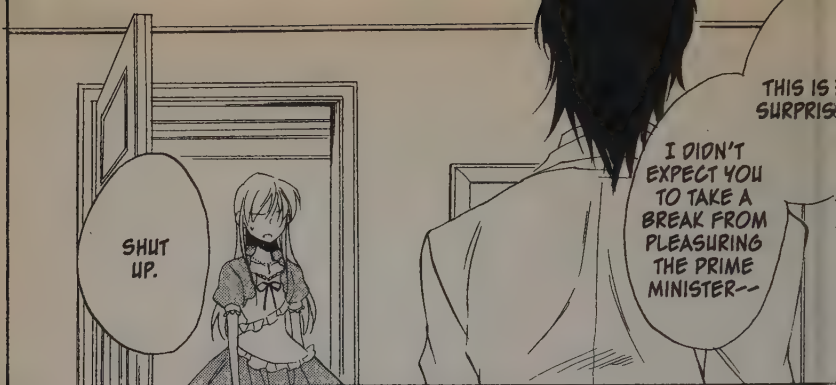
HUFF

HUFF

BUT I WON'T
FEEL RIGHT UNTIL
I CONFRONT
HIM ON THIS.

I
UNDERSTAND
WHERE
PETER'S
COMING
FROM.

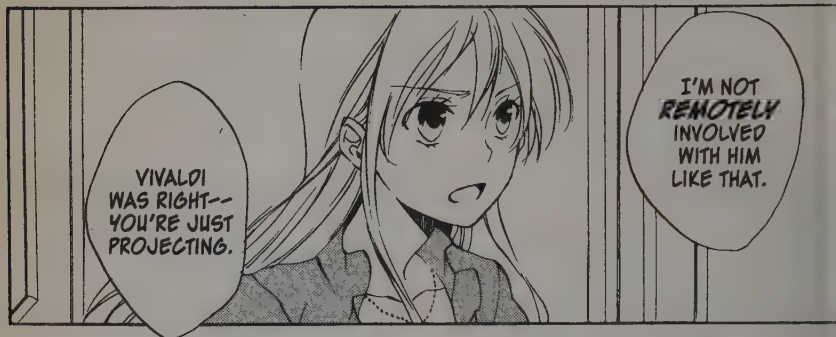
IT'S A LOT EASIER
TO JUST IGNORE
SOMEONE YOU HATE.



SHUT
UP.

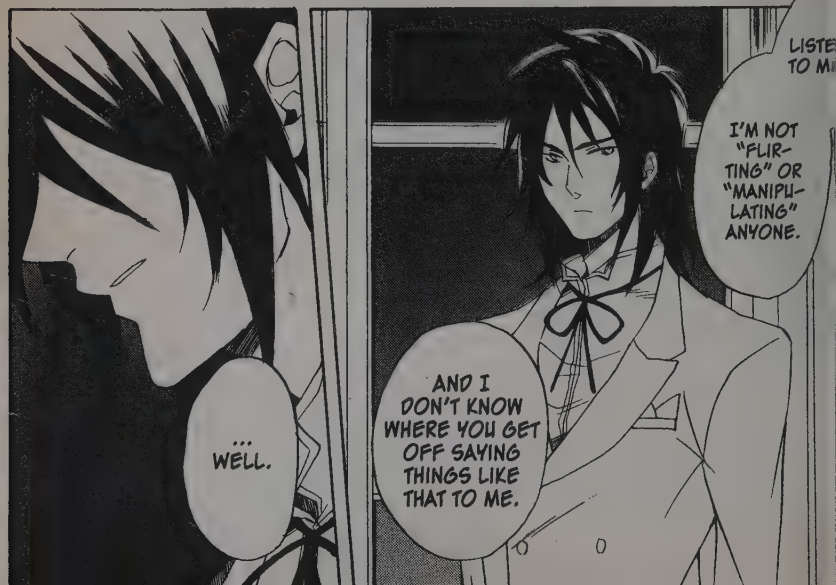
THIS IS
SURPRISE

I DIDN'T
EXPECT YOU
TO TAKE A
BREAK FROM
PLEASURING
THE PRIME
MINISTER--



VIVALDI
WAS RIGHT--
YOU'RE JUST
PROJECTING.

I'M NOT
REMOTELY
INVOLVED
WITH HIM
LIKE THAT.



LISTEN
TO ME

I'M NOT
"FLIR-
TING" OR
"MANIPH-
LATING"
ANYONE.

AND I
DON'T KNOW
WHERE YOU GET
OFF SAYING
THINGS LIKE
THAT TO ME.

...
WELL.





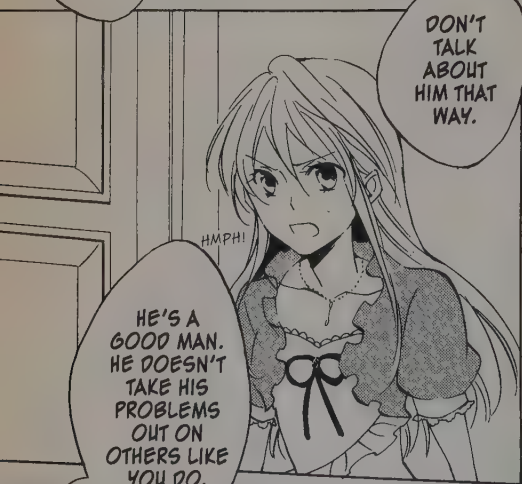
AH,
YES...

"HE"?



OH.

THE TALL
DRINK OF
PISS THAT
BROKE
YOUR LITTLE
HEART.



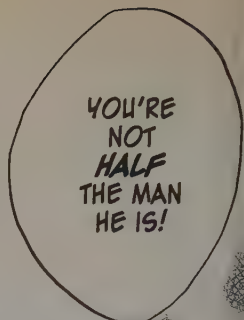
HMPH!

DON'T
TALK
ABOUT
HIM THAT
WAY.

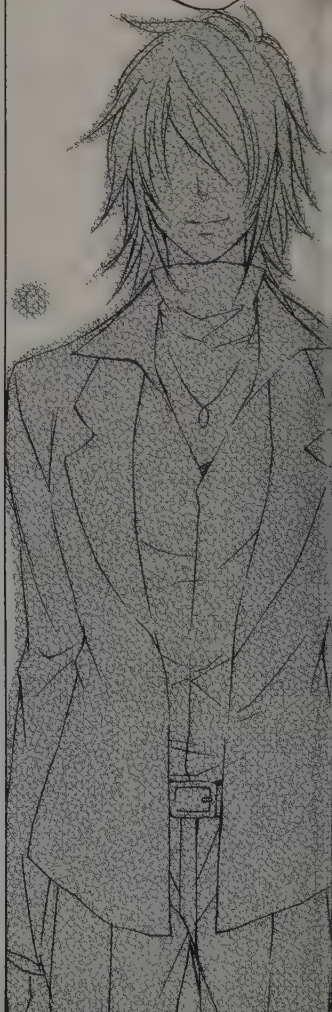
HE'S A
GOOD MAN.
HE DOESN'T
TAKE HIS
PROBLEMS
OUT ON
OTHERS LIKE
YOU DO.

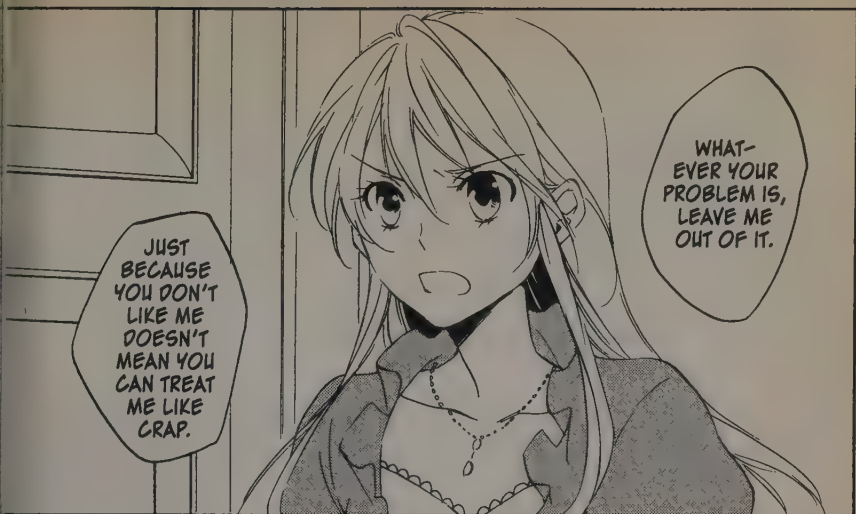


YOU HAVE
HIS FACE, BUT
THAT BLACK
HEART IS ALL
YOURS.



YOU'RE
NOT
HALF
THE MAN
HE IS!



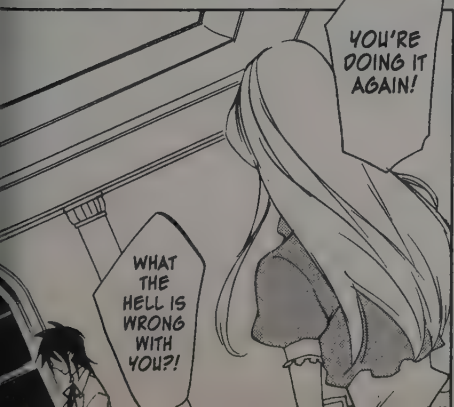


JUST
BECAUSE
YOU DON'T
LIKE ME
DOESN'T
MEAN YOU
CAN TREAT
ME LIKE
CRAP.

WHAT-
EVER YOUR
PROBLEM IS,
LEAVE ME
OUT OF IT.



YOU'RE
DOING IT
AGAIN!

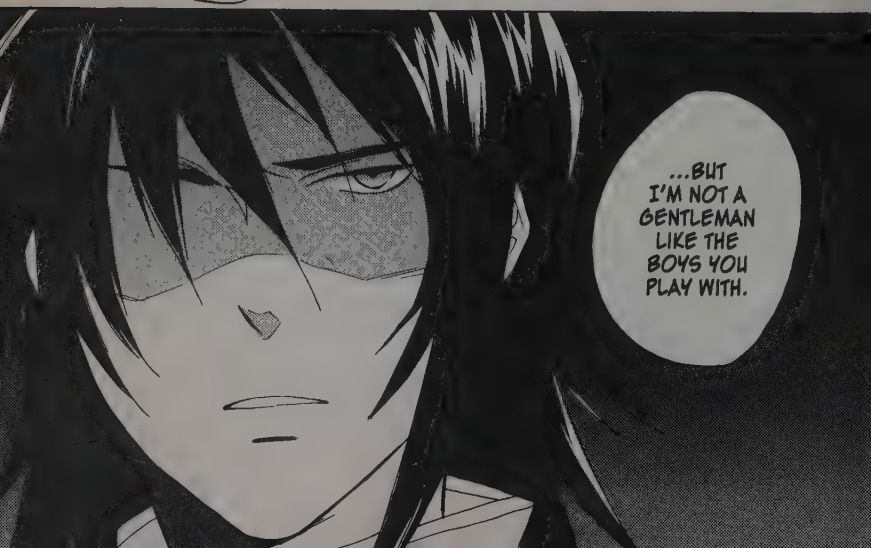
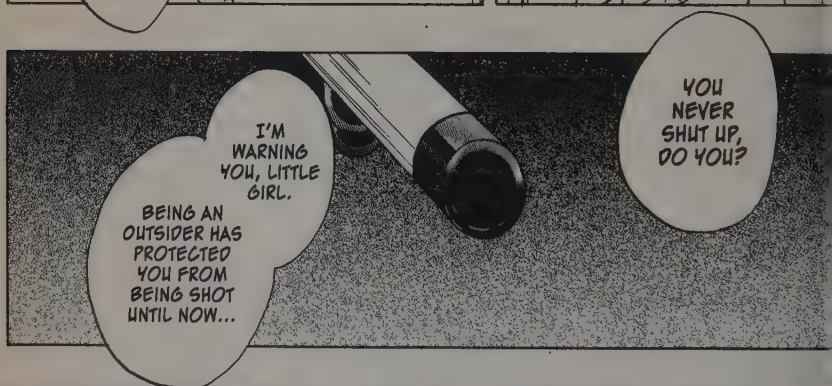


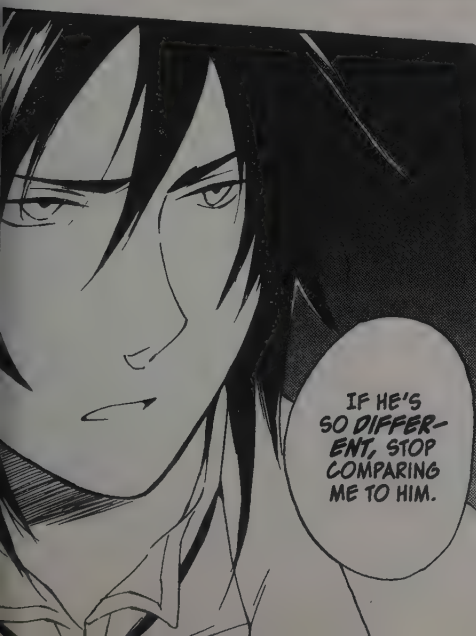
WHAT
THE
HELL IS
WRONG
WITH
YOU?!



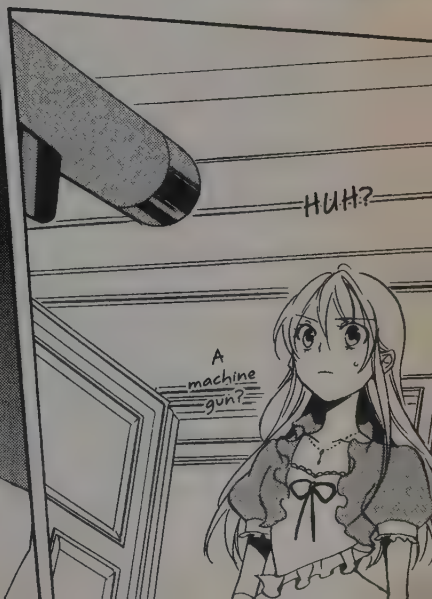
THE
FIERCE
ACT ISN'T
CUTE.

IF YOU
CAME TO
PATCH
THINGS UP
WITH ME,
YOU COULD
BE A LITTLE
SWEETER
ABOUT IT.



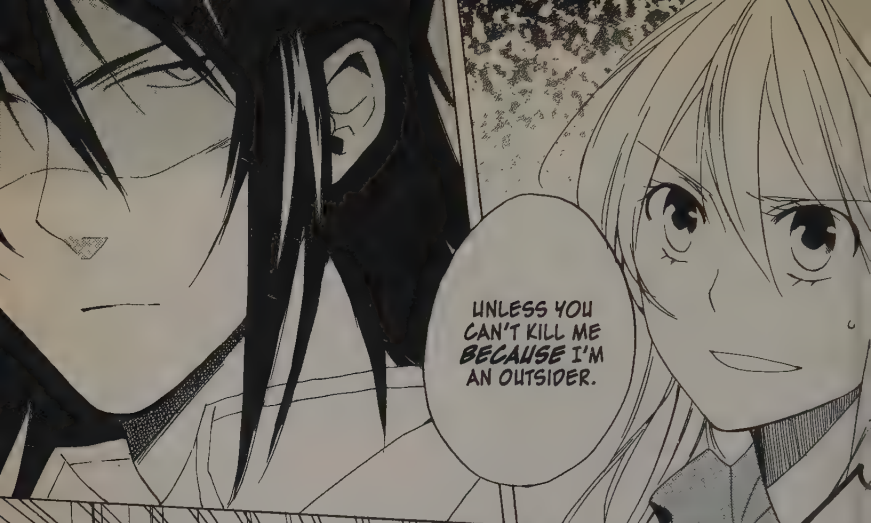


IF HE'S
SO DIFFER-
ENT, STOP
COMPARING
ME TO HIM.



HUH?

A
machine
gun?



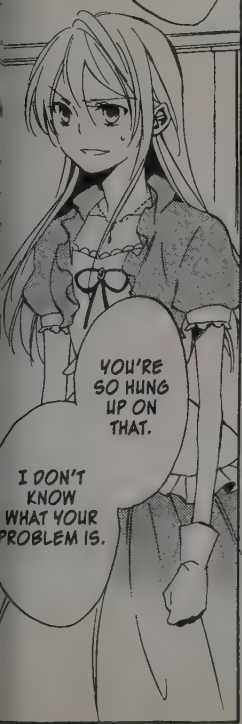
UNLESS YOU
CAN'T KILL ME
BECAUSE I'M
AN OUTSIDER.





THIS
WORLD IS A
SHOOTING
GALLERY.
I'VE BEEN IN
PLENTY OF
DANGER.

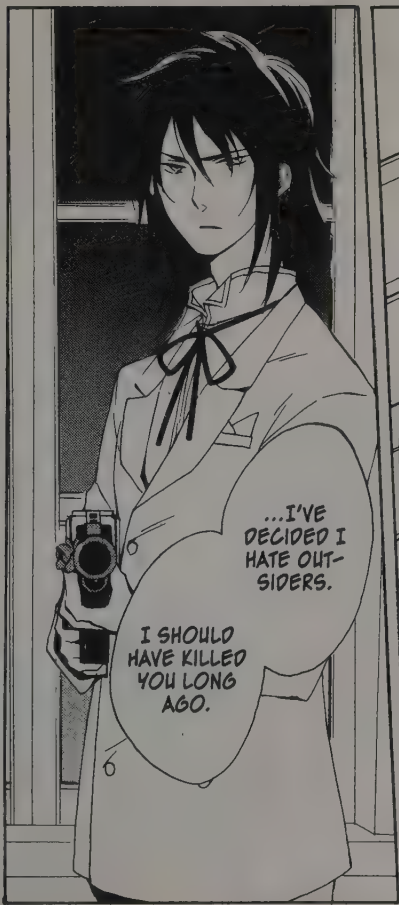
PLEASE.
"GENTLE-
MAN"?



WHO
CARES
IF I'M
AN OUT-
SIDER?

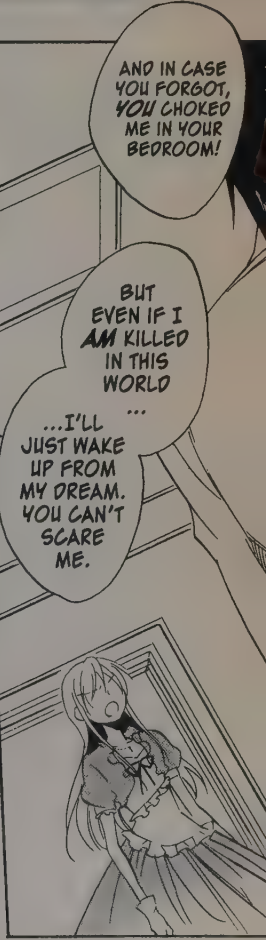
YOU'RE
SO HUNG
UP ON
THAT.

I DON'T
KNOW
WHAT YOUR
PROBLEM IS.



...I'VE
DECIDED I
HATE OUT-
SIDERS.

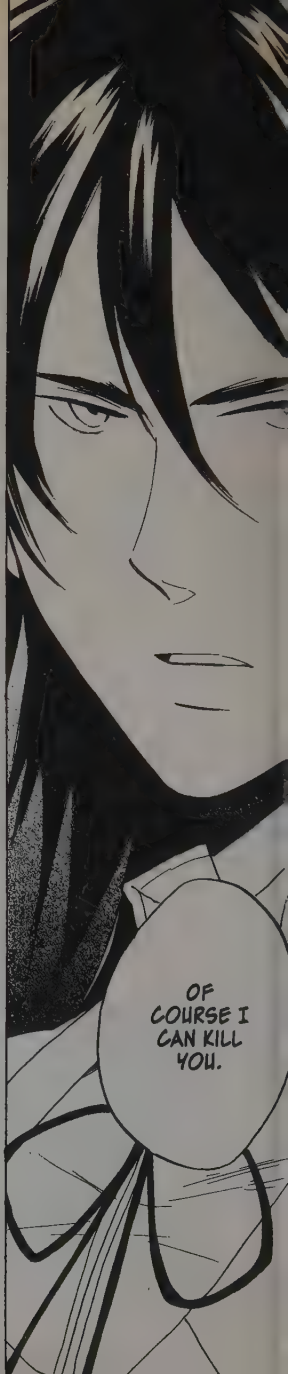
I SHOULD
HAVE KILLED
YOU LONG
AGO.



AND IN CASE
YOU FORGOT,
YOU CHOKED
ME IN YOUR
BEDROOM!

BUT
EVEN IF I
AM KILLED
IN THIS
WORLD

...I'LL
JUST WAKE
UP FROM
MY DREAM.
YOU CAN'T
SCARE
ME.



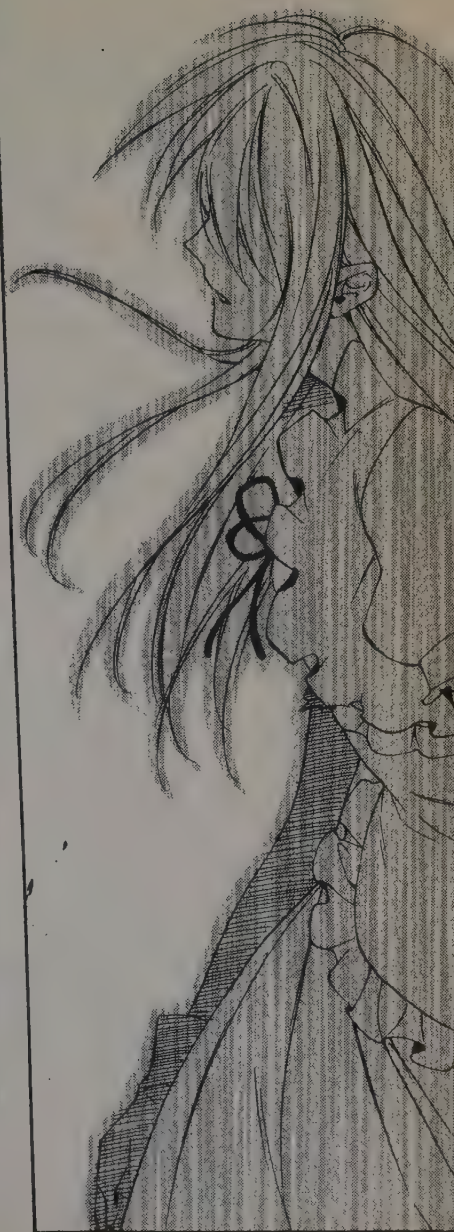
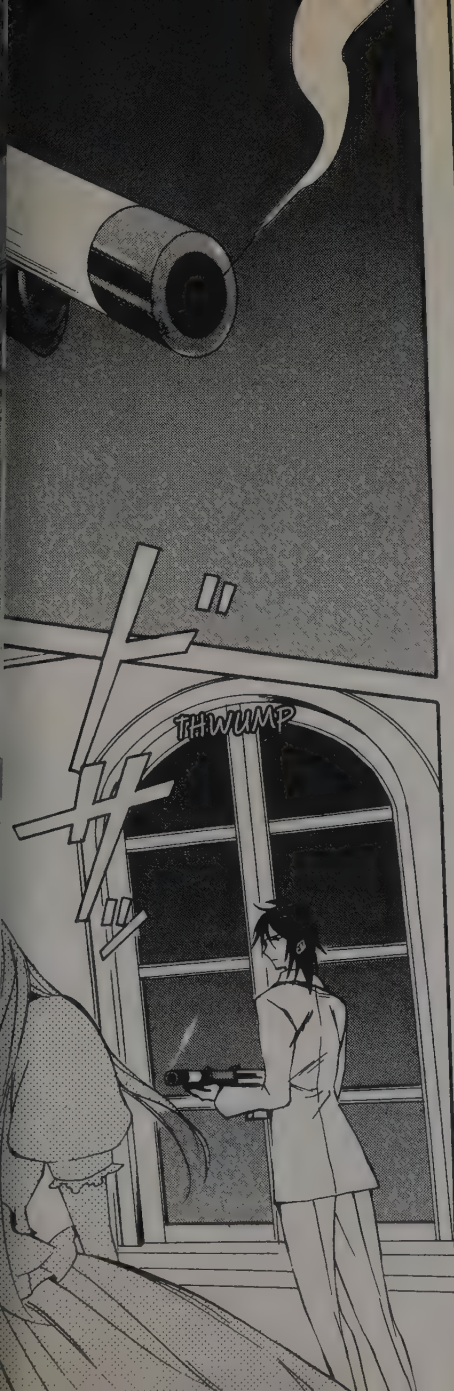
DON'T
MISUNDERSTAND
ME. I DESPISE
THE SENTIMENT
THAT EVERYONE
IN THIS WORLD
LOVES OUTSIDERS.



AND
EVEN IF
I *DID*
LOVE
YOU...

...I WOULD
STILL HAVE
REASON TO
KILL YOU.
MORE,
PERHAPS.

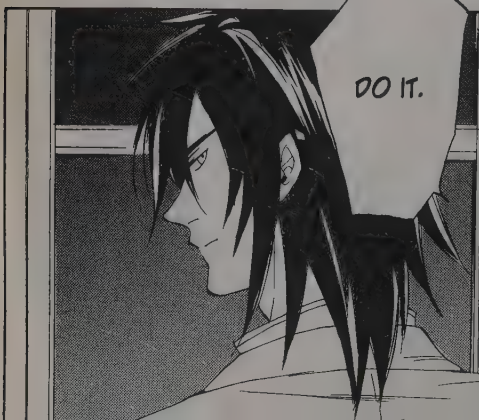
OF
COURSE I
CAN KILL
YOU.



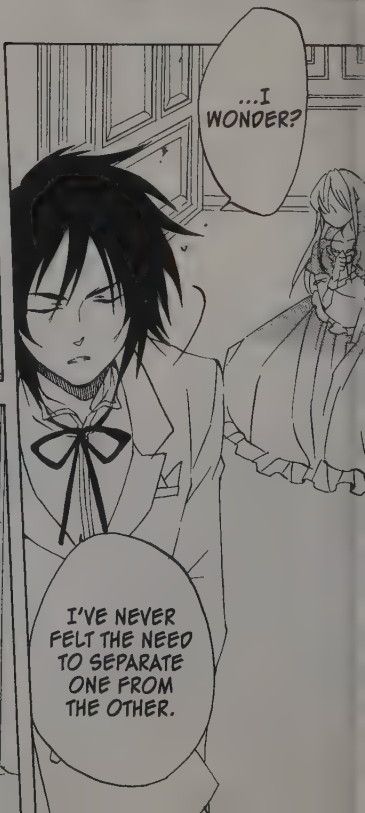


OR WOULD
YOU TREAT
ME LIKE THIS
WHETHER I WAS
AN OUTSIDER
OR NOT?

I CAN'T
HELP BEING
AN OUT-
SIDER.

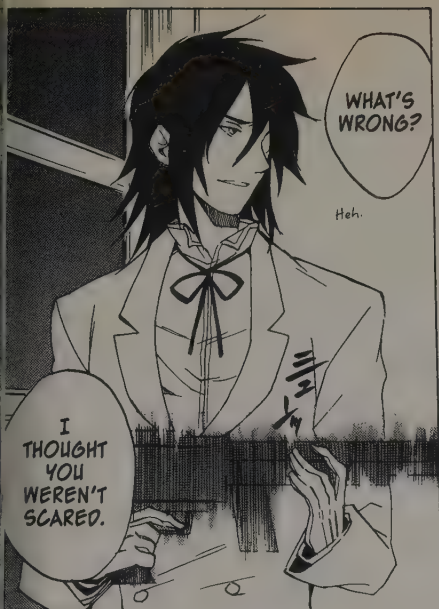


DO IT.



...I
WONDER?

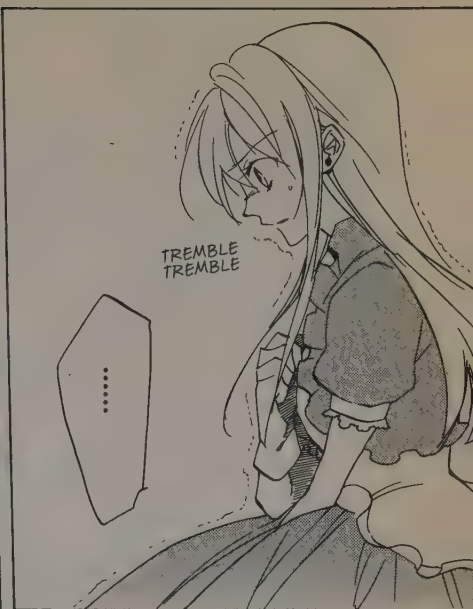
I'VE NEVER
FELT THE NEED
TO SEPARATE
ONE FROM
THE OTHER.



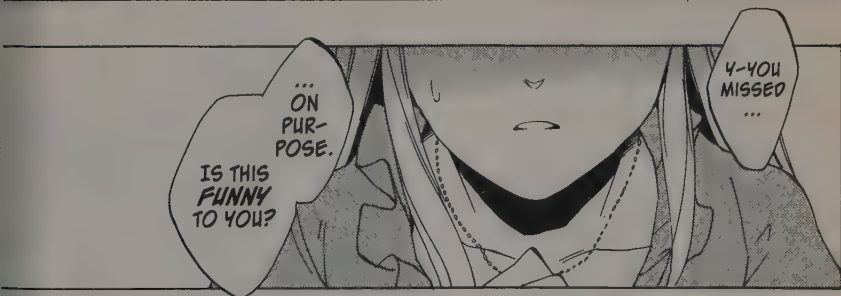
WHAT'S WRONG?

Heh.

I
THOUGHT
YOU
WEREN'T
SCARED.



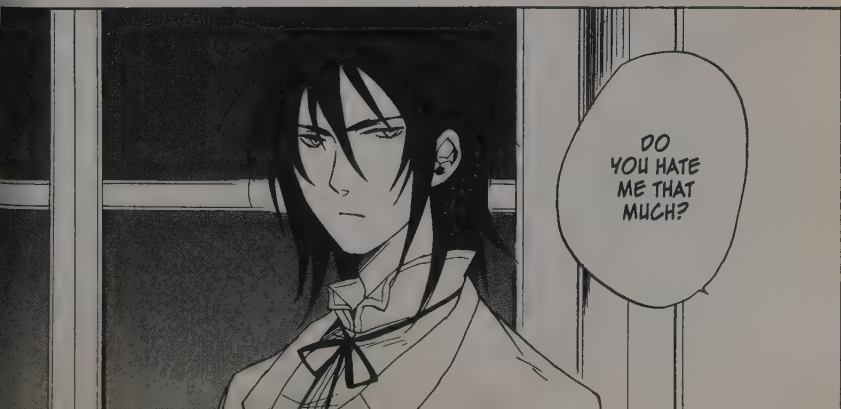
TREMBLE
TREMBLE



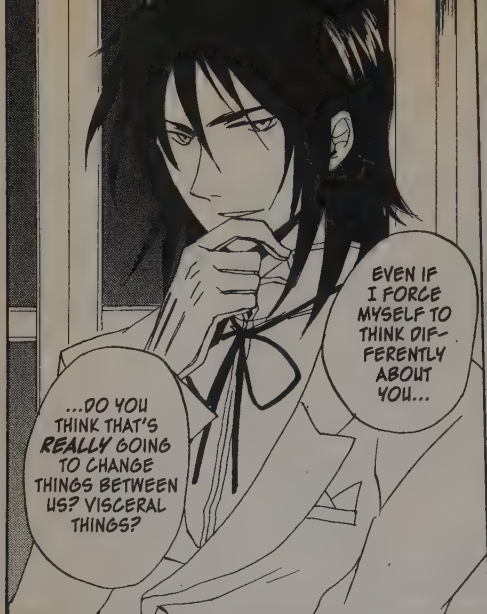
...
ON
PUR-
POSE.

IS THIS
FUNNY
TO YOU?

4-YOU
MISSED
...

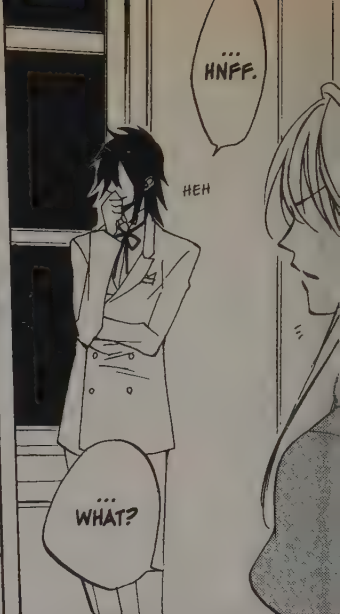


DO
YOU HATE
ME THAT
MUCH?



...DO YOU
THINK THAT'S
REALLY GOING
TO CHANGE
THINGS BETWEEN
US? VISCERAL
THINGS?

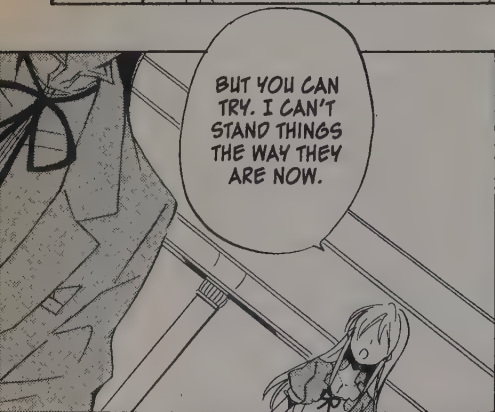
EVEN IF
I FORCE
MYSELF TO
THINK DIFF-
ERENTLY
ABOUT
YOU...



...
HNFF.

HEH

...
WHAT?



BUT YOU CAN
TRY. I CAN'T
STAND THINGS
THE WAY THEY
ARE NOW.



EVEN IF
NOTHING
CHANGES, AT
LEAST I'LL
KNOW YOU PUT
IN *SOME* KIND
OF EFFORT.

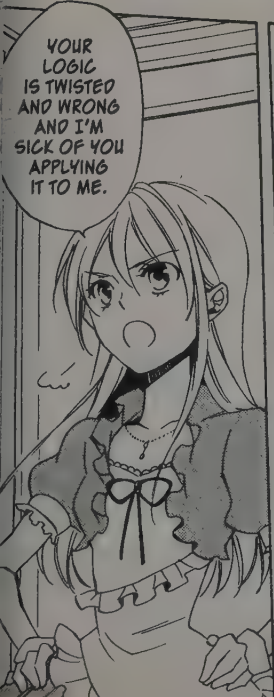


HOW
SHOULD I
KNOW?

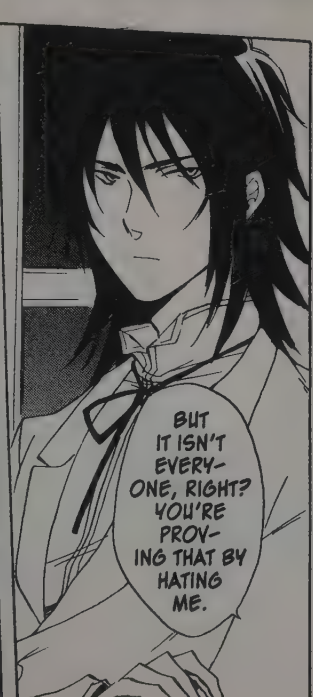


MAYBE THEN
YOU'LL STOP
TREATING ME
LIKE I'M A
CANCER ON
THIS PLACE.

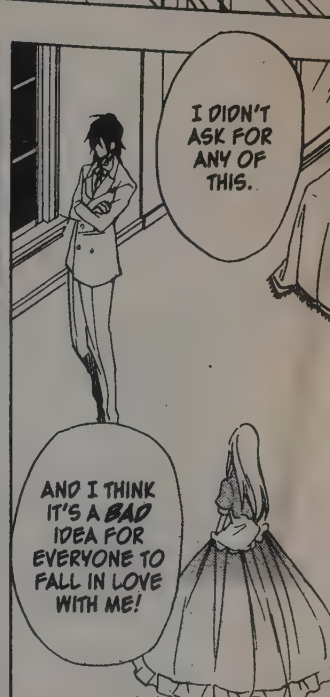
DISCONNECT
ME FROM
WHATEVER
RIDICULOUS
PROBLEM YOU
HAVE WITH
PEOPLE WHO
AREN'T FROM
YOUR WORLD.



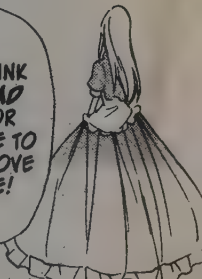
YOUR
LOGIC
IS TWISTED
AND WRONG
AND I'M
SICK OF YOU
APPLYING
IT TO ME.



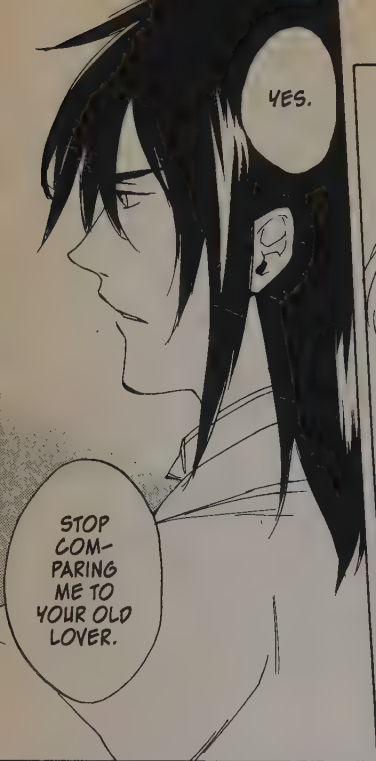
BUT
IT ISN'T
EVERY-
ONE, RIGHT?
YOU'RE
PROV-
ING THAT BY
HATING
ME.



I DIDN'T
ASK FOR
ANY OF
THIS.



AND I THINK
IT'S A **BAD**
IDEA FOR
EVERYONE TO
FALL IN LOVE
WITH ME!



YES.

STOP
COM-
PARING
ME TO
YOUR OLD
LOVER.

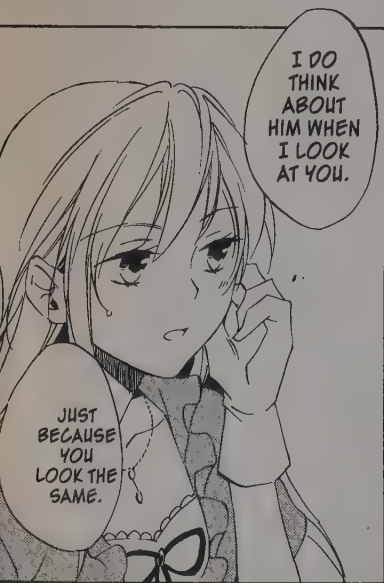


CON-
DITION?



I'LL STAY
CONSIDER
YOU A LO
AND NO
OUTSIDE

ON
ONE CON-
DITION.



I DO
THINK
ABOUT
HIM WHEN
I LOOK
AT YOU.

JUST
BECAUSE
YOU
LOOK THE
SAME.

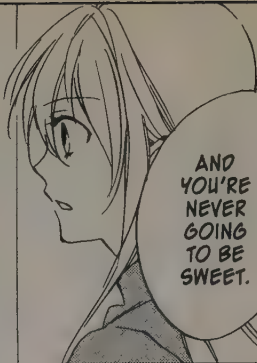


IF YOU WANT
ME TO DROP
MY PERSONAL
BAGGAGE, YOU
HAVE TO DO
THE SAME.

UH...I
GUESS
THAT'S
FAIR.



OUR
PERSONALITIES
AREN'T
GOING
ANYW-
HERE.

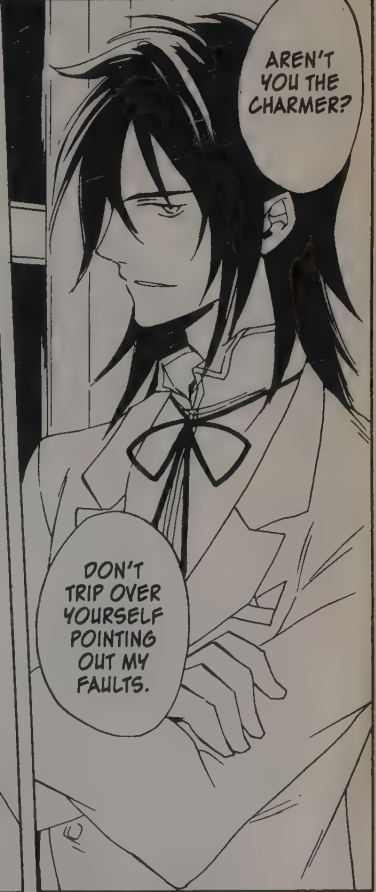


AND
YOU'RE
NEVER
GOING
TO BE
SWEET.

I'M
NEVER
GOING
TO BE
DEMURE.

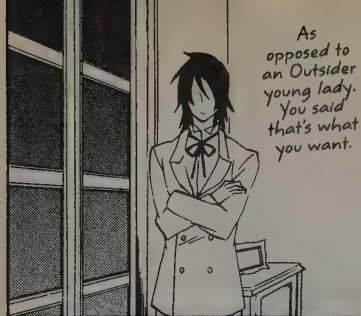


BUT FINE.
I'LL TRY
THIS "NEW
PERSPECTIVE"
OF YOURS.



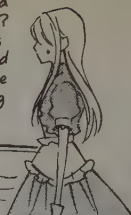
DON'T
TRIP OVER
YOURSELF
POINTING
OUT MY
FAULTS.

AREN'T
YOU THE
CHARMER?



As
opposed to
an Outsider
young lady.
You said
that's what
you want.

...Nothing
more than a
young lady?
Why does
that sound
like you're
insulting
me?



WOBBLE

UGH.

BE
GENTLE
WITH ME,
ACE.

JEEZ,
JULIUS.

YOU
HOLD
YOUR
LIQUOR
LIKE A
LITTLE
BABY.

WEIRD. I DON'T
THINK WE'VE
MADE ANY REAL
PROGRESS...

...BUT I
FEEL BETTER
ABOUT THIS.

Are you seriously that sensitive?

OBTUSIOUSLY. HE NEVER TRIED TO KILL ME.

AND HE WAS A LOT BETTER AT...

...OH.

I thought you said you'd stop.

AND YOU'VE MADE IT CLEAR YOU THINK OF HIM AS THE BETTER MAN.

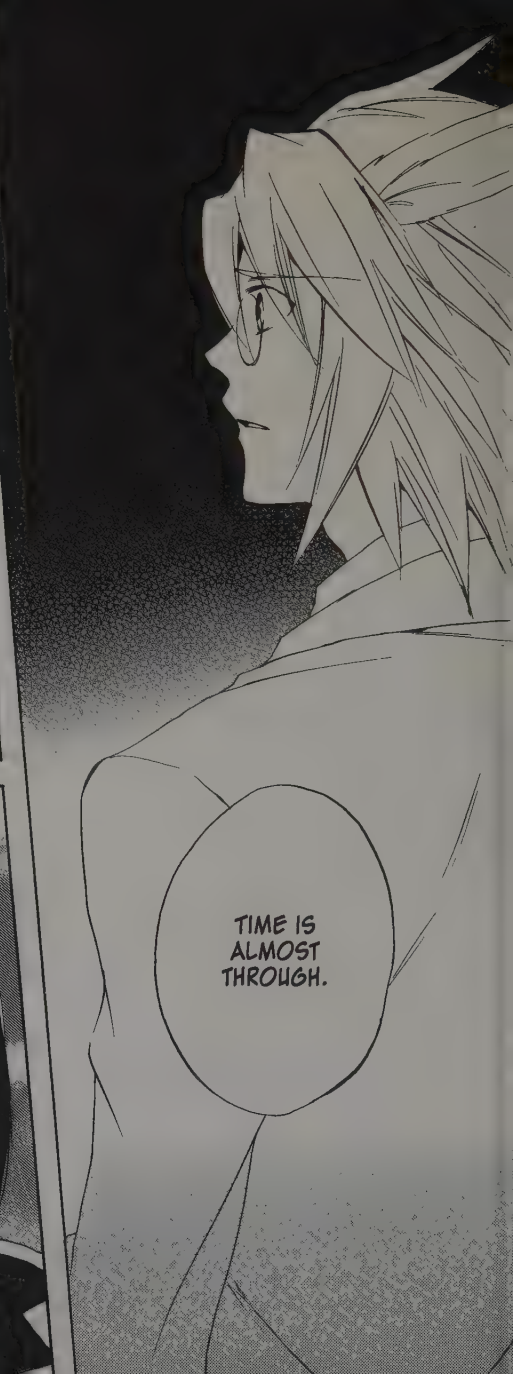
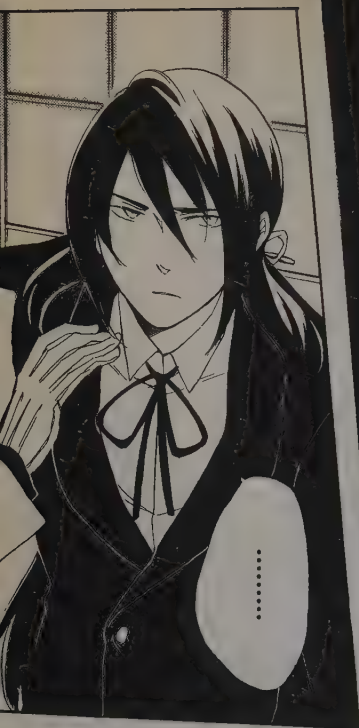
THEN I'LL ALSO "TRY MY BEST."

I'LL TRY TO SEE YOU AS NOTHING MORE THAN A YOUNG LADY.

I'LL TRY MY BEST.

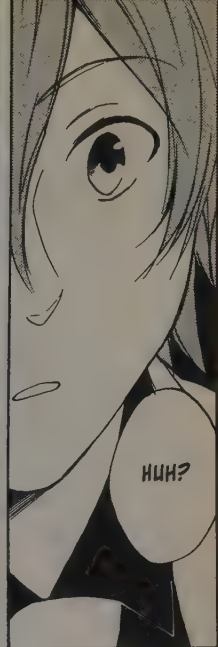
FAIR?

I'LL TRY NOT TO COMPARE YOU TWO, OKAY?

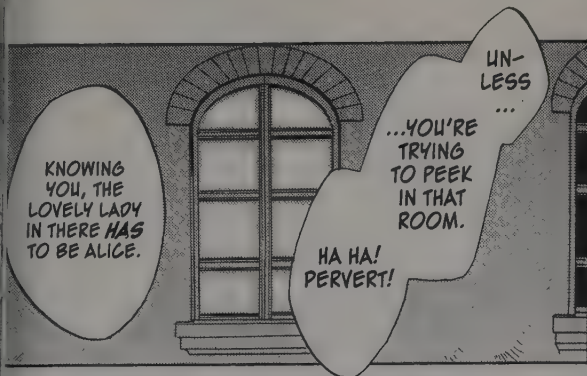




HEY,
PETER.



HUH?

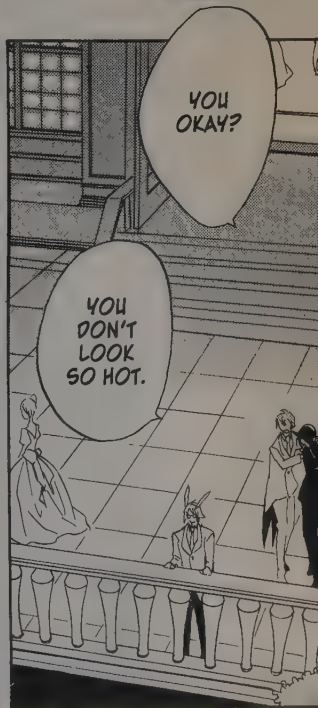


KNOWING
YOU, THE
LOVELY LADY
IN THERE *HAS*
TO BE ALICE.

UN-
LESS
...

...YOU'RE
TRYING
TO PEEK
IN THAT
ROOM.

HA HA!
PERVERT!

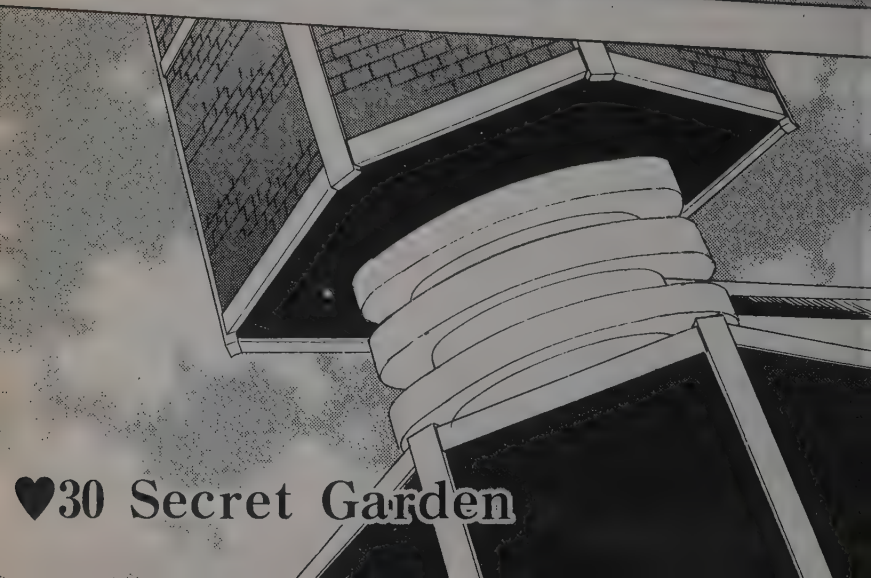
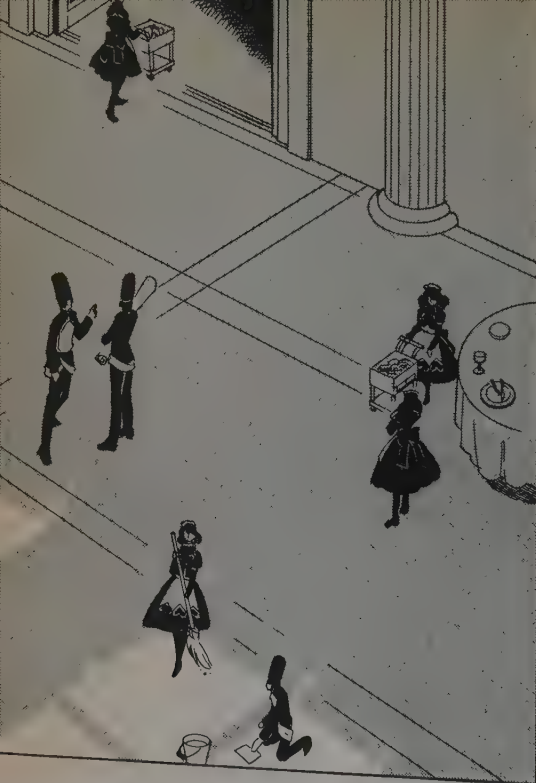


YOU
OKAY?

YOU
DON'T
LOOK
SO HOT.

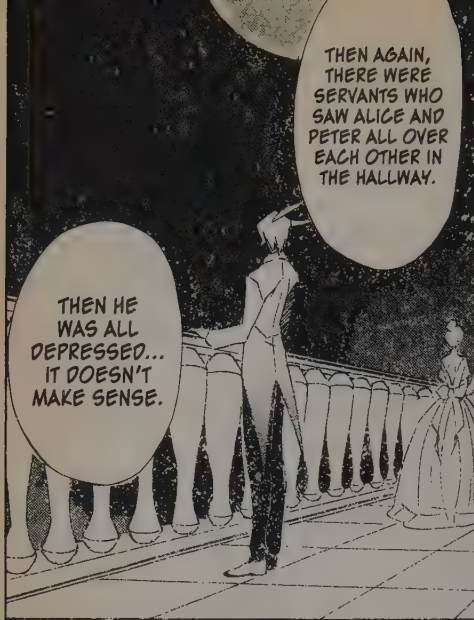


...WHAT
DO I
DO?



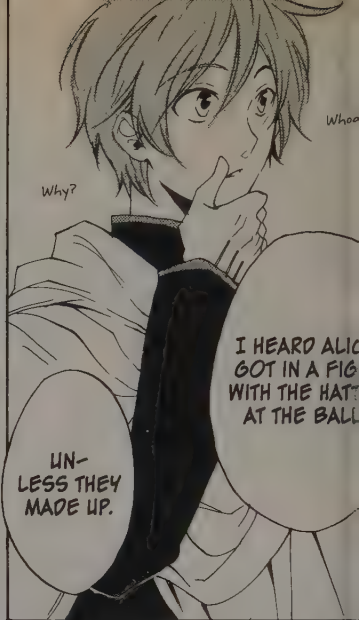


ALICE...



THEN HE
WAS ALL
DEPRESSED...
IT DOESN'T
MAKE SENSE.

THEN AGAIN,
THERE WERE
SERVANTS WHO
SAW ALICE AND
PETER ALL OVER
EACH OTHER IN
THE HALLWAY.

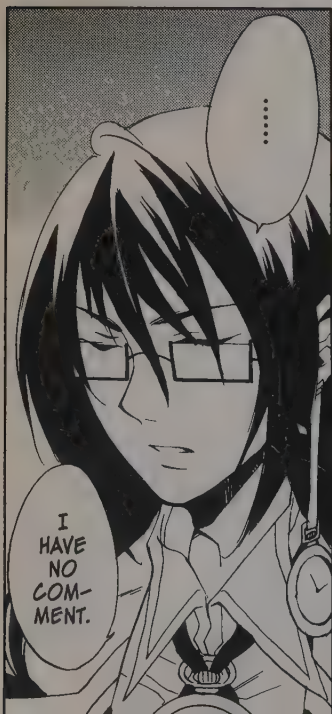


Why?

Whoa

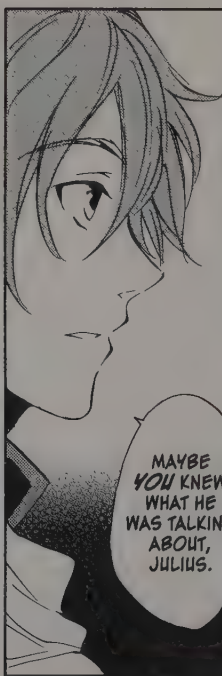
I HEARD ALICE
GOT IN A FIGHT
WITH THE HAT
AT THE BALL

UN-
LESS THEY
MADE UP.

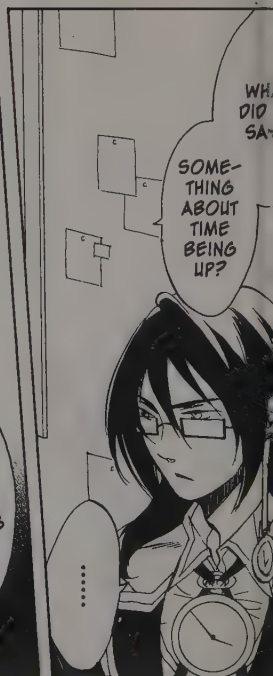


...

I
HAVE
NO
COM-
MENT.



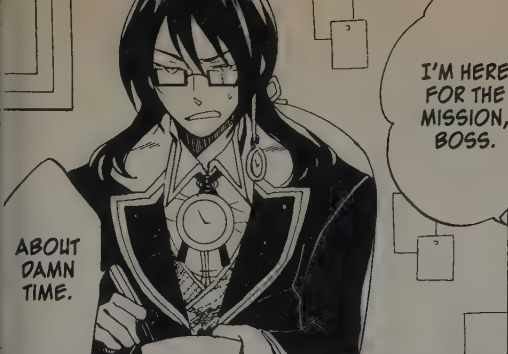
MAYBE
YOU KNEW
WHAT HE
WAS TALKING
ABOUT,
JULIUS.



WH.
DID
SA-

SOME-
THING
ABOUT
TIME
BEING
UP?

...

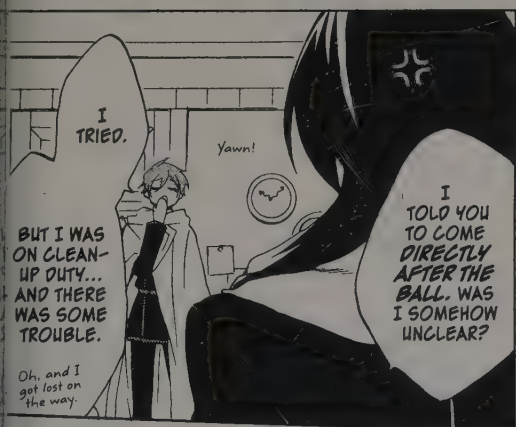


ABOUT
DAMN
TIME.

I'M HERE
FOR THE
MISSION,
BOSS.



HEYA.



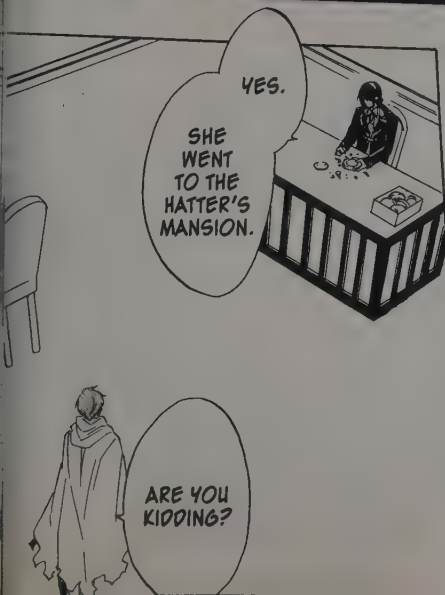
I
TRIED.

Yawn!

BUT I WAS
ON CLEAN-
UP DUTY...
AND THERE
WAS SOME
TROUBLE.

Oh, and I
got lost on
the way.

I
TOLD YOU
TO COME
DIRECTLY
AFTER THE
BALL. WAS
I SOMEHOW
UNCLEAR?



YES.

SHE
WENT
TO THE
HATTER'S
MANSION.

ARE YOU
KIDDING?



Wish I
coulda
slept in...

WHERE'S
ALICE?

IS
SHE OUT
AGAIN?



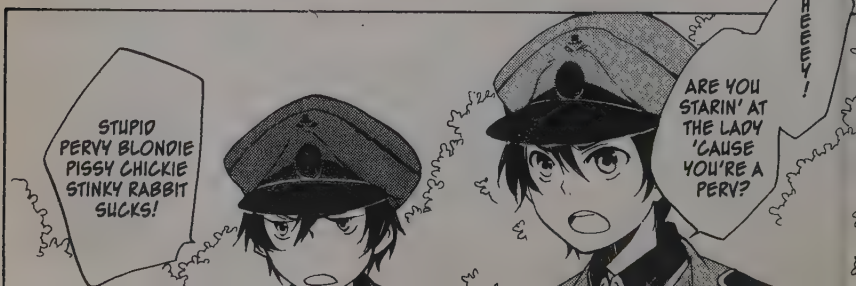
STARE



D-D-D-DIDN'T
MEAN TO
STARE!

OR KEEP
STARING.
WHATEVER
YOU LIKE.

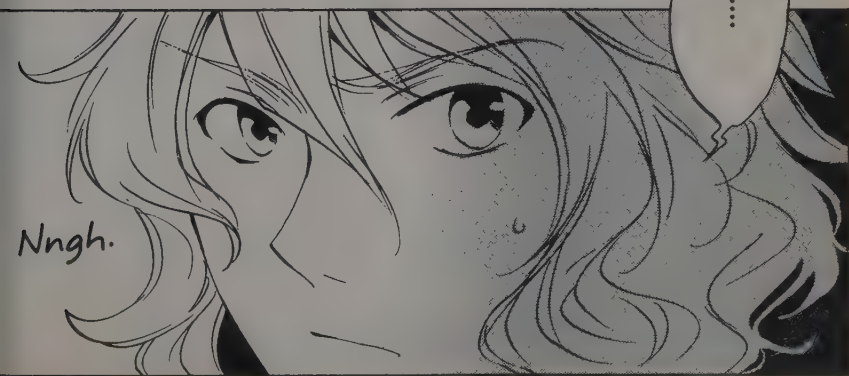
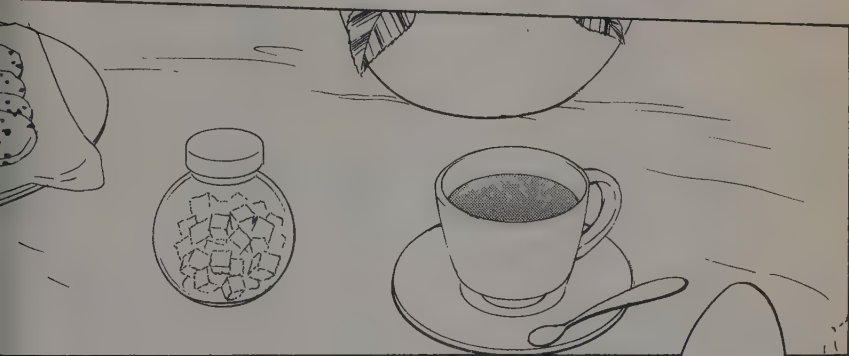
TAKE A
PICTURE,
ELLIOT.

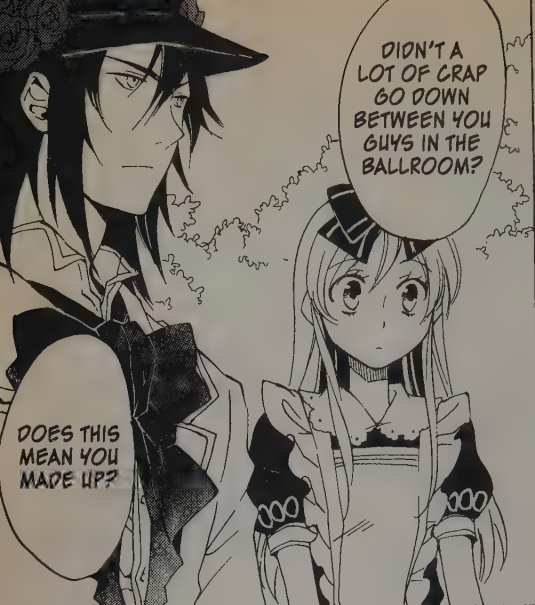


STUPID
PERVY BLONDIE
PISSY CHICKIE
STINKY RABBIT
SUCKS!

ARE YOU
STARIN' AT
THE LADY
'CAUSE
YOU'RE A
PERVY?

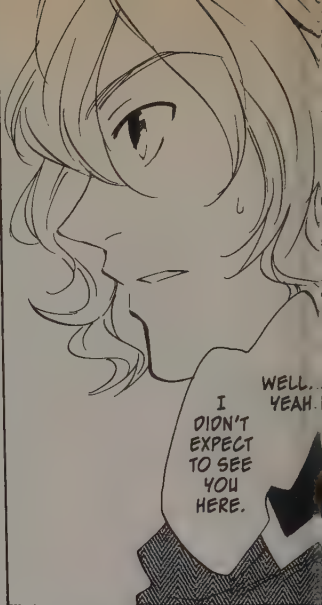
HUUUU...!





DOES THIS
MEAN YOU
MADE UP?

DIDN'T A
LOT OF CRAP
GO DOWN
BETWEEN YOU
GUYS IN THE
BALLROOM?



WELL...
YEAH.
I
DIDN'T
EXPECT
TO SEE
YOU
HERE.



YOU
KNOW
SHE
HATES
IT
WHEN
YOU
TALK
DOWN
TO
HER!

H-HEY!

BLOOD!



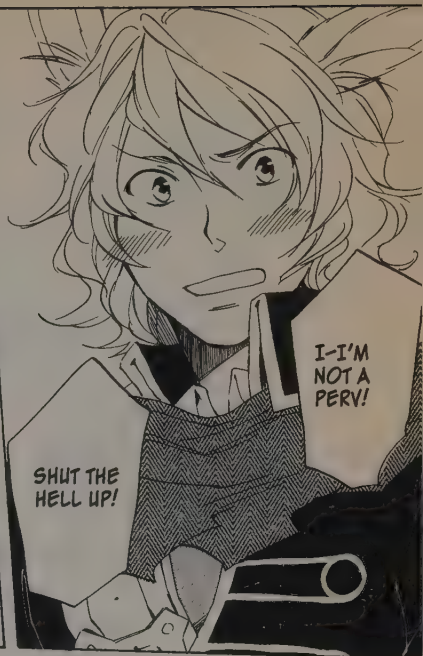
CALM
DOWN,
ELLIOT.

That's not
what he's
doing.



"MADE
UP"?

MY FIGHT
WAS NOT WITH
THIS YOUNG
LADY, WHO IS
NOTHING MORE
THAN WHAT SITS
BEFORE YOU.





OKAY.

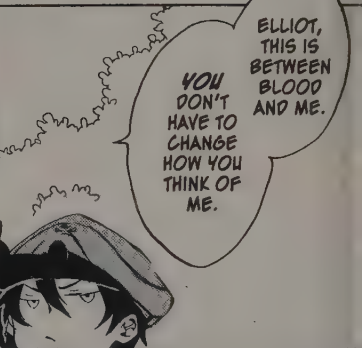
I CAN
GET
BEHIND
THAT IF
IT'LL
HELP YOU
TWO GET
ALONG.



THANK
YOU,
GUYS.

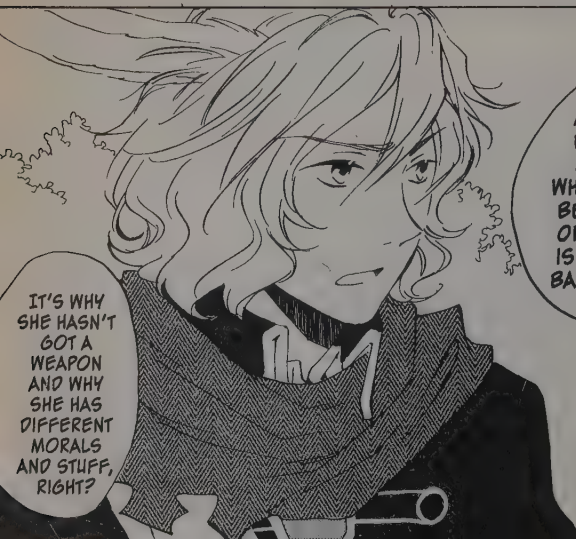


THE
BUNNY'S
PRETTY
DUMB. I
DUNNO IF
HE CAN BE
OPEN-
MINDED
LIKE WE
ARE.



ELLIOT,
THIS IS
BETWEEN
BLOOD
AND ME.

YOU
DON'T
HAVE TO
CHANGE
HOW YOU
THINK OF
ME.



IT'S WHY
SHE HASN'T
GOT A
WEAPON
AND WHY
SHE HAS
DIFFERENT
MORALS
AND STUFF,
RIGHT?

AND I
DON'T
KNOW
WHY ALICE
BEING AN
OUTSIDER
IS SUCH A
BAD THING.

SHUT
YOUR
TRAP.



IT'S PRETTY
OBVIOUS THAT
BLOOD HAS A
THING AGAINST
OUTSIDERS.

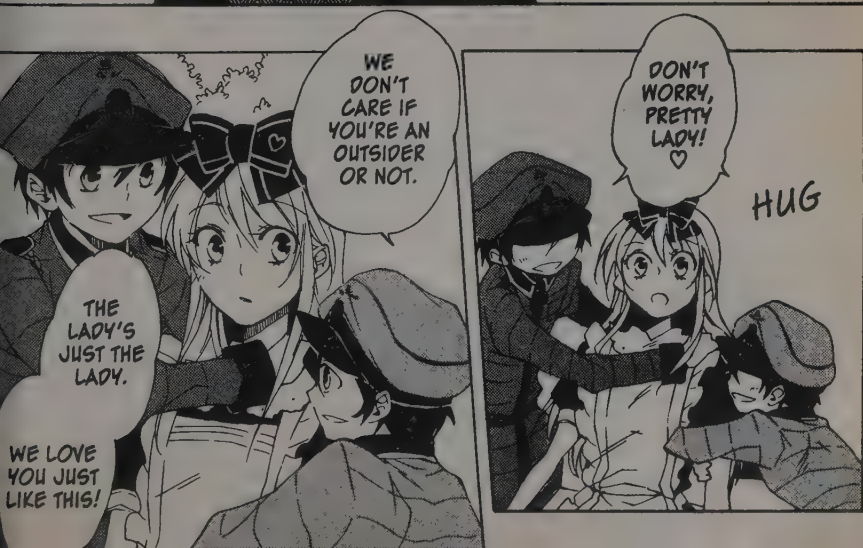
WE TALKED
AT THE BALL.
I TOLD HIM
HOW MUCH I
HATE BEING
TREATED
DIFFERENTLY
FOR BEING AN
OUTSIDER.



I DON'T
REALLY
GET IT.

UH
...?

SO WE'RE
AGREEING TO
FORGET THE
"OUTSIDER"
THING.



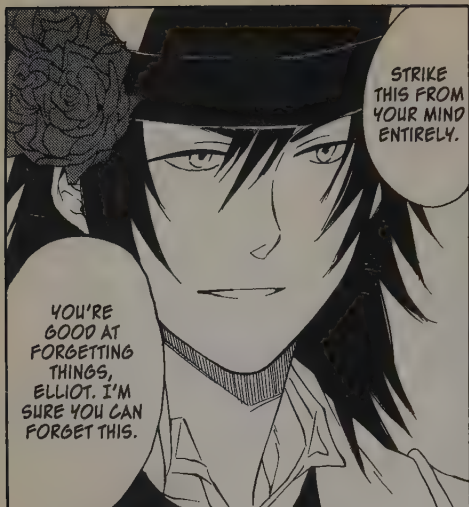
THE
LADY'S
JUST THE
LADY.

WE
DON'T
CARE IF
YOU'RE AN
OUTSIDER
OR NOT.

DON'T
WORRY,
PRETTY
LADY!
♡

HUG

WE LOVE
YOU JUST
LIKE THIS!



STRIKE
THIS FROM
YOUR MIND
ENTIRELY.

YOU'RE
GOOD AT
FORGETTING
THINGS,
ELLIOT. I'M
SURE YOU CAN
FORGET THIS.



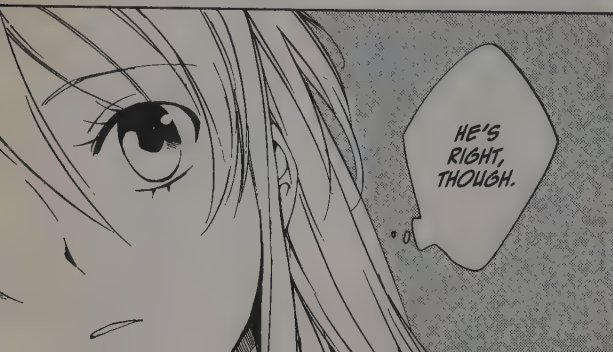
IF THAT'S
THE CASE,
JUST TREAT
HER LIKE YOU
ALWAYS HAVE.



I'm glad he
took that as a
compliment.

I'LL FORGET
THE HELL OUT
OF IT--YOU
CAN COUNT
ON ME!

DON'T
WORRY!
I WILL
FORGET
ABOUT
IT!



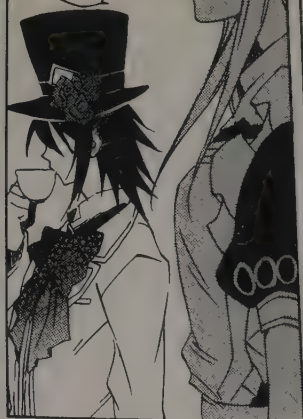
HE'S
RIGHT,
THOUGH.



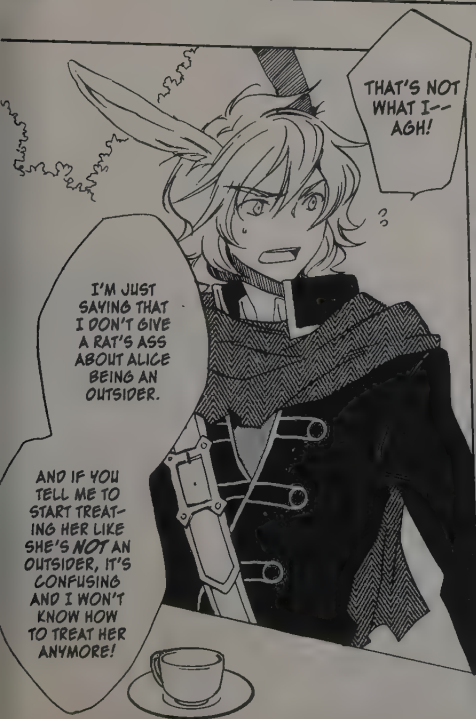
BLOO
...



YEAH.
IT'S
JUST...



WELL...



THAT'S NOT
WHAT I--
AGH!

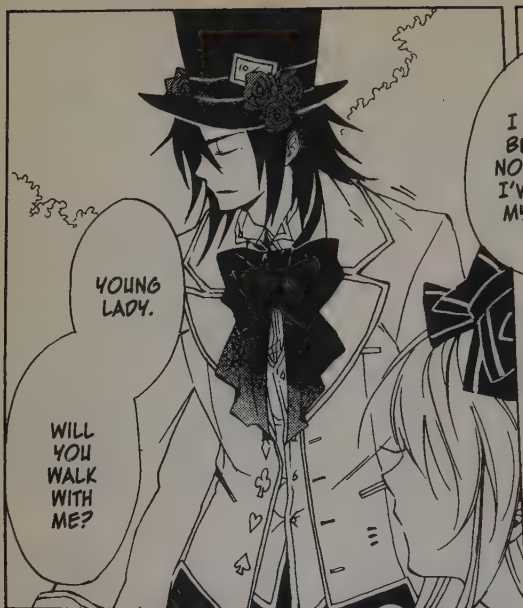
I'M JUST
SAYING THAT
I DON'T GIVE
A RAT'S ASS
ABOUT ALICE
BEING AN
OUTSIDER.

AND IF YOU
TELL ME TO
START TREAT-
ING HER LIKE
SHE'S **NOT** AN
OUTSIDER, IT'S
CONFUSING
AND I WON'T
KNOW HOW
TO TREAT HER
ANYMORE!



GET
BENT,
BUNNY.

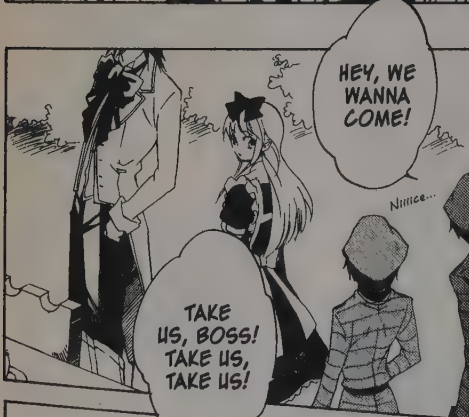
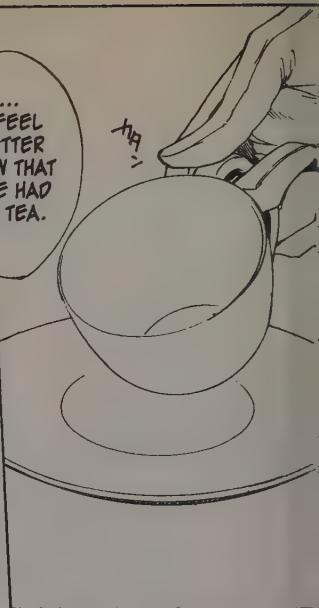
IF YOU
MAKE THE
LADY SAD,
WE'RE GONNA
KICK YOUR
FLUFFY BUTT.



YOUNG LADY.

WILL YOU WALK WITH ME?

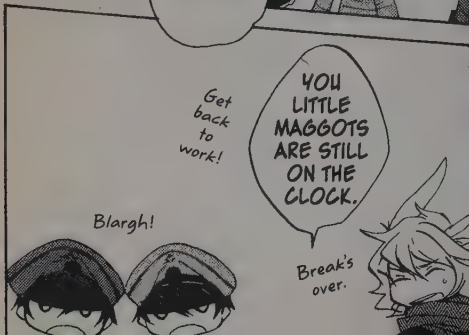
...
I FEEL BETTER NOW THAT I'VE HAD MY TEA.



HEY, WE WANNA COME!

Nmice...

TAKE US, BOSS!
TAKE US,
TAKE US!



A WALK?

SURE.

Get back to work!

YOU LITTLE MAGGOTS ARE STILL ON THE CLOCK.

Blargh!

Break's over.



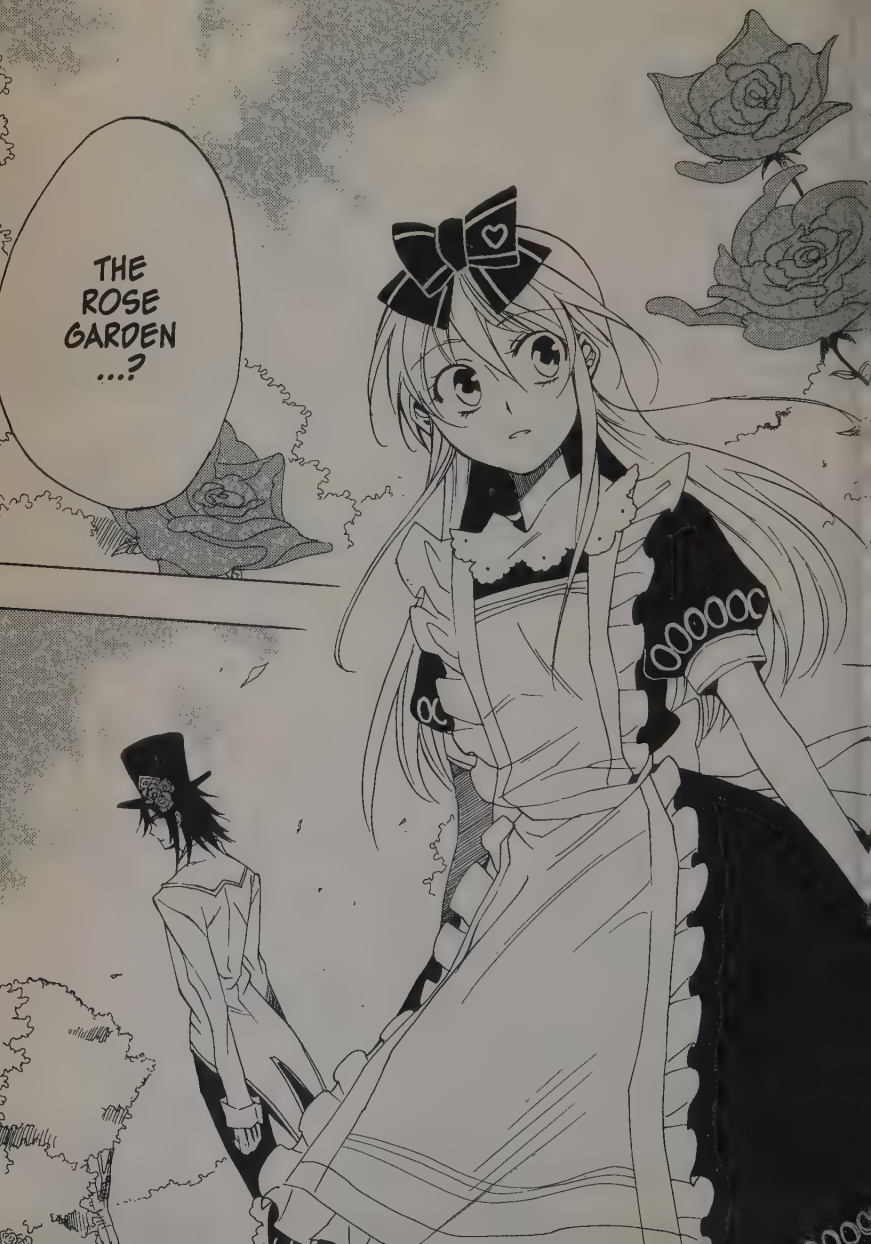
I AM AN
OUTSIDER.

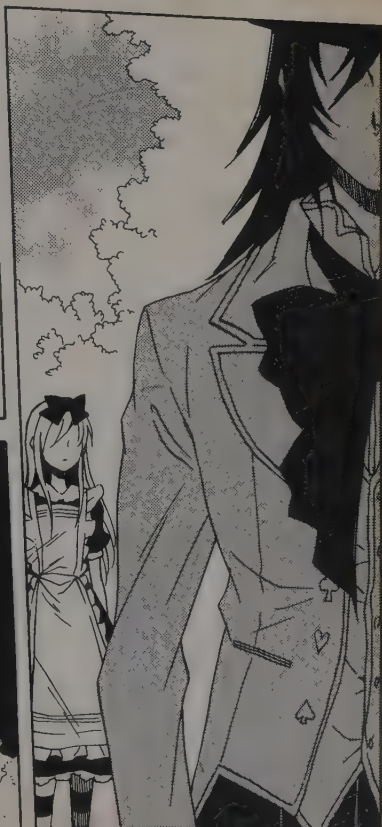
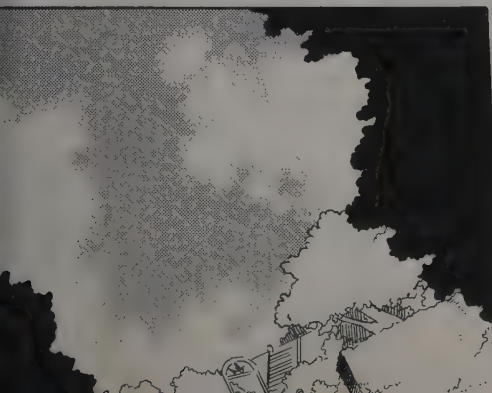
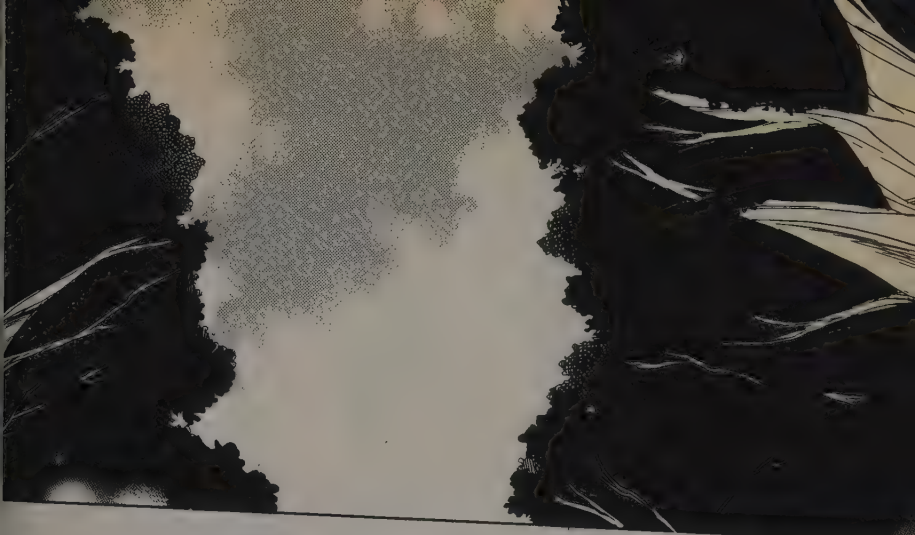


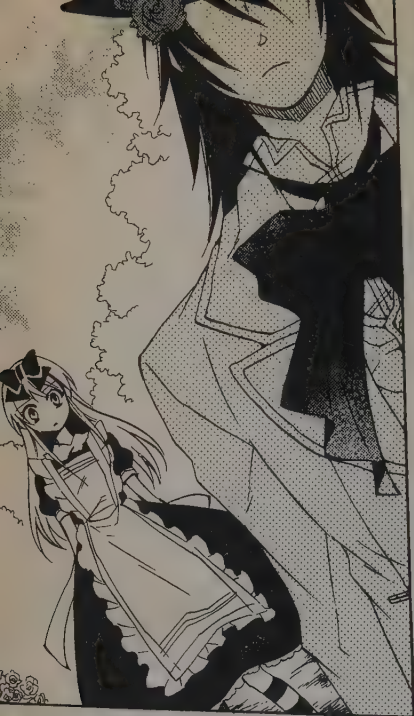
AND BLOOD
KNOWS THAT,
OBVIOUSLY.

WE CAN STOP
TALKING ABOUT
IT, BUT THAT
DOESN'T CHANGE
WHO I AM.

THE
ROSE
GARDEN
...?



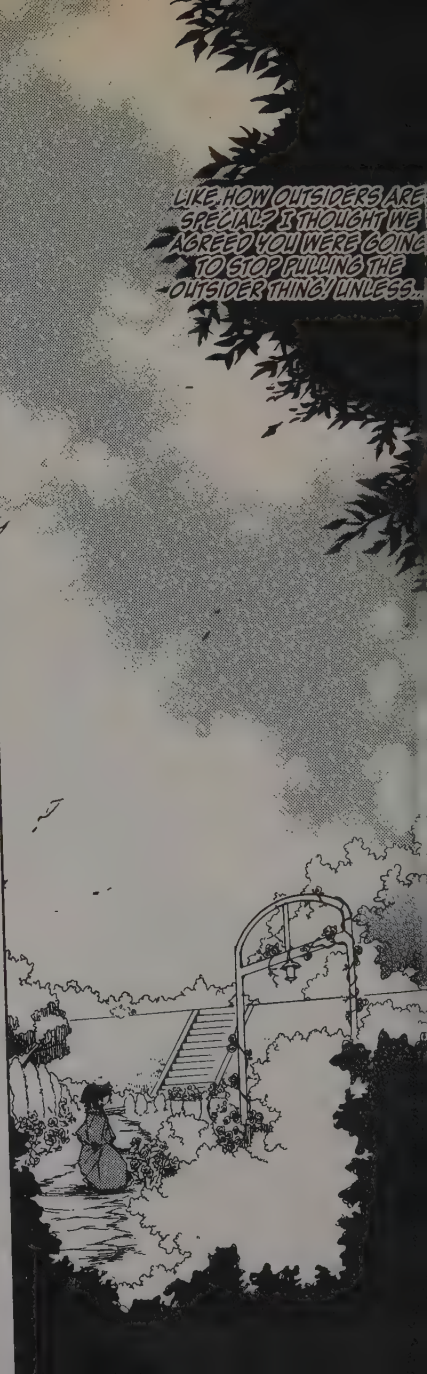




LIKE HOW OUTSIDERS ARE
SPECIAL? I THOUGHT WE
AGREED YOU WERE GOING
TO STOP PULLING THE
OUTSIDER THING! UNLESS...



...HUH?





YOU
TOLD ME
THIS PLACE
WAS OFF-
LIMITS.

BUT
WHY?



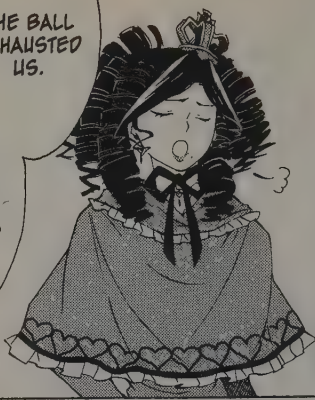
ONLY
FOR THOSE
I HAVEN'T
SPECIFICALLY
INVITED.



SPECIAL
...



THIS
GARDEN
IS FOR MY
SPECIAL
GUESTS.



THE BALL
EXHAUSTED
US.

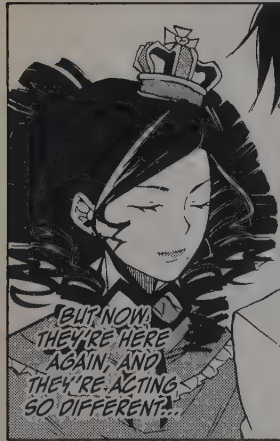
WE WISHED
TO SOOTHE
OUR SPIRIT
BY RELAXING
HERE.



LOOK
WHO'S
HERE.

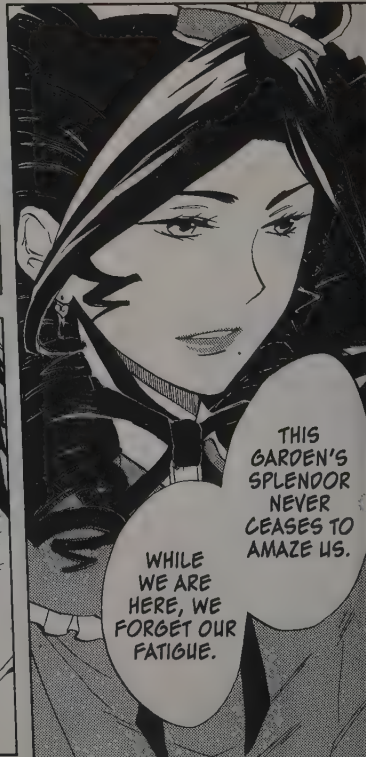


WHAT IS
THIS?!



THEY WERE
SCREAMING
AT EACH
OTHER DURING
THE BALL.

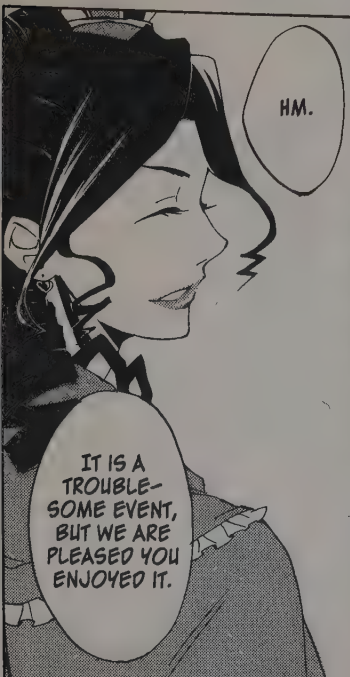
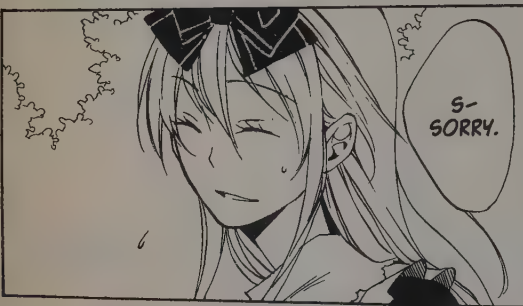
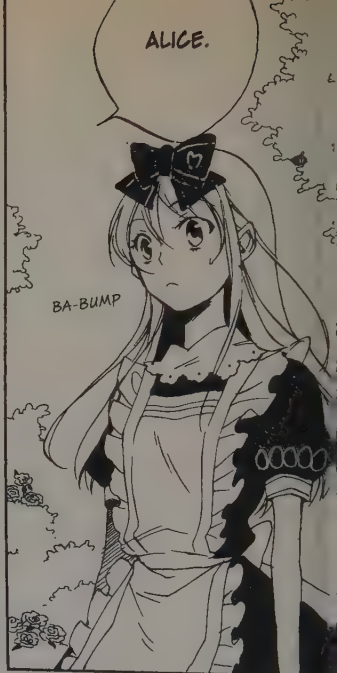
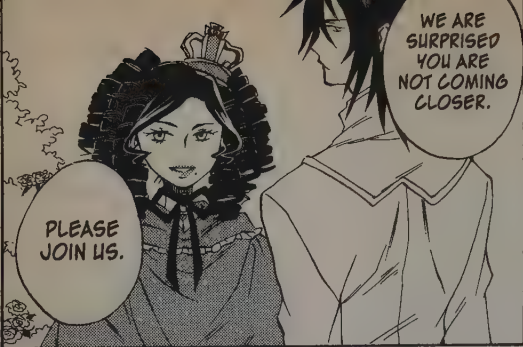
BUT NOW
THEY'RE HERE
AGAIN, AND
THEY'RE ACTING
SO DIFFERENT!



THIS
GARDEN'S
SPLENDOR
NEVER
CEASES TO
AMAZE US.

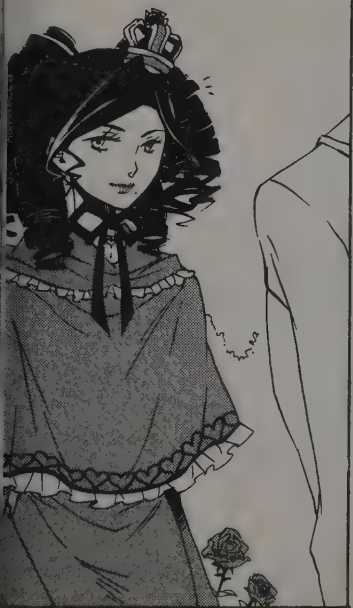
WHILE
WE ARE
HERE, WE
FORGET OUR
FATIGUE.







HOW CAN THEY NOT
BE SECRET LOVERS?



AND SINCE
SHE'S BEEN
COMING HERE
AWHILE...



THAT MEANS
BLOOD CONSIDERS
VIVALDI SPECIAL.



"THERE'S
NOTHING
TO BE
AFRAID
OF."

"R-
REALLY?"

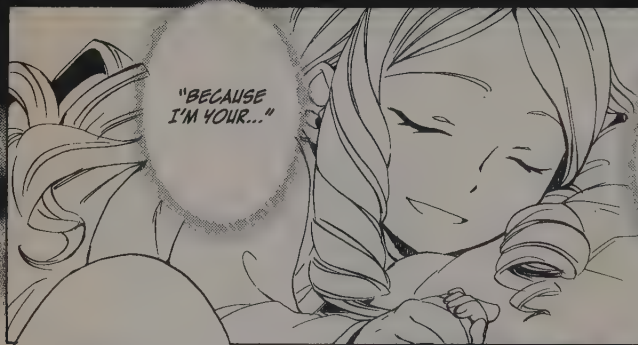


"YEAH."

SNIFF

"DID YOU
HAVE A
SCARY
DREAM?"

"THEN YOU
CAN SLEEP
IN MY
BED. I'LL
HOLD YOUR
HAND."



"BECAUSE
I'M YOUR..."

"REALLY."

"I KNOW YOU
BETTER THAN
ANYONE,
ALICE."

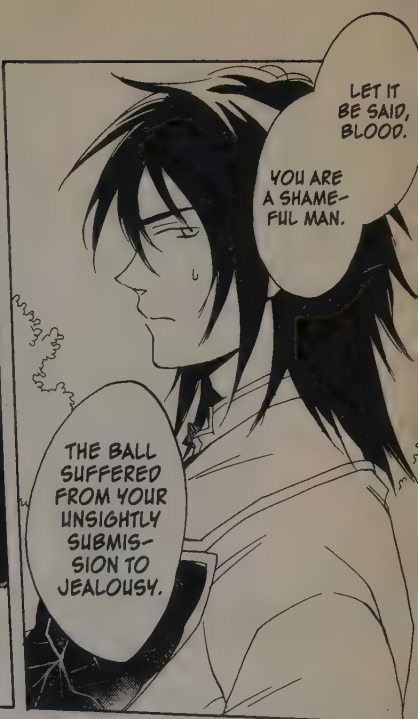
BEING MY
OLDER SISTER
DOESN'T GIVE
YOU **PSYCHIC**
POWERS,
VIVALDI.





YOU'LL
RECALL I
TOLD YOU
I WASN'T
JEALOUS.

OH?



LET IT
BE SAID,
BLOOD.

YOU ARE
A SHAME-
FUL MAN.

THE BALL
SUFFERED
FROM YOUR
UNSIGHTLY
SUBMISS-
ION TO JEALOUSY.

THIS FEELS
NOSTALGIC, FOR
SOME REASON.



IT IS
FOOLISH
TO DENY
THIS.

HUH?



DO NOT
WASTE YOUR
BREATH ON
SUCH LIES.

WE CAN
SEE THROUGH
YOUR WORDS
TO THE TRUTH
IN YOUR
HEART.

"..ALICE."

WHY
DIDN'T
I NOTICE
BEFORE?

THEY
FIGHT
BUT STAY
WEIRDLY
CLOSE...

AND NOW
THAT I THINK
ABOUT IT,
THEY EVEN
LOOK ALIKE.

"THERE
WILL BE A
TIME WHEN
YOUR ROLE
IS DECIDED,
WHETHER
YOU WISH
FOR IT OR
NOT."

THIS IS
HOW
THINGS
ARE IN OUR
WORLD.

...DIDN'T
EXPECT TWO
OVERLORDS
FIGHTING FOR
TERRITORY TO
BE SIBLINGS.

Not that being
lovers made much
more sense.

I
JUST...

THAT
WOULD
BE ME.

ALTHOUGH
I GUESS YOU
MENTIONED
YOU HAVE
A YOUNGER
BROTHER,
VIVALDI.



VIVALDI?

OLDER
SISTER...?



HO HO.

YES.

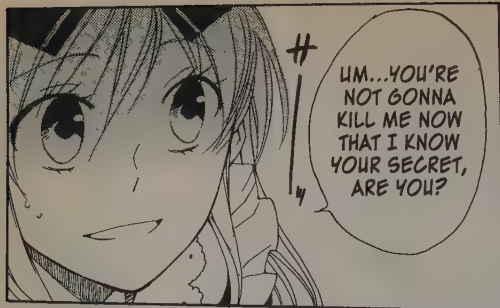
WE
SHARE
BLOOD
WITH THIS
HUMILIATING
MAN, I'M
AFRAID.



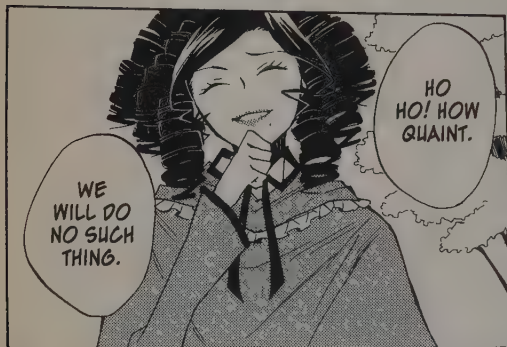
YEAH!
I MEAN
...

...YEAH.

DOES THIS
SURPRISE
YOU?

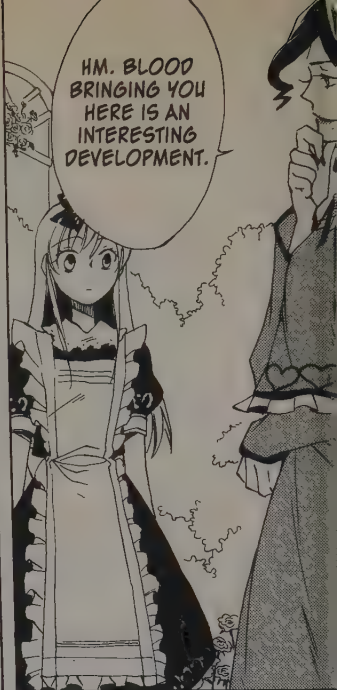


UM...YOU'RE
NOT GONNA
KILL ME NOW
THAT I KNOW
YOUR SECRET,
ARE YOU?



WE
WILL DO
NO SUCH
THING.

HO
HO! HOW
QUAINT.



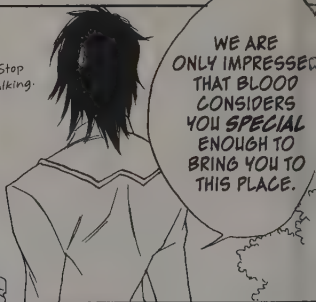
HM. BLOOD
BRINGING YOU
HERE IS AN
INTERESTING
DEVELOPMENT.



IN CASE
YOU'VE
FORGOTTEN,
YOUNG LADY,
I'M IGNORING
THE FACT THAT
YOU'RE AN
OUTSIDER
NOW.



Stop
talking.



WE ARE
ONLY IMPRESSED
THAT BLOOD
CONSIDERS
YOU SPECIAL
ENOUGH TO
BRING YOU TO
THIS PLACE.



IT'S
PROBABLY
JUST
BECAUSE
I'M AN
OUTSIDER OR
SOMETHING.

OH.
UH...



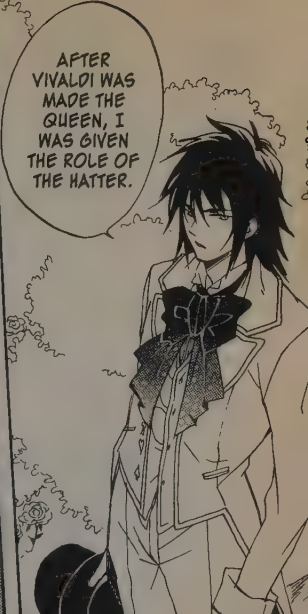
SO WE
HAVE INSTEAD
KILLED EVERY
PERSON WHO
KNEW THAT WE
ARE SIBLINGS.

OTHER
THAN OUR
OTHER
FAMILY
MEMBERS.

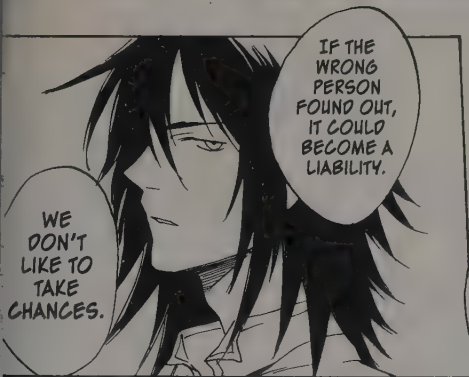
WHAT
...?



WE
RECEIVED
POSITIONS
WHERE WE
ARE EXPECTED
TO KILL EACH
OTHER.

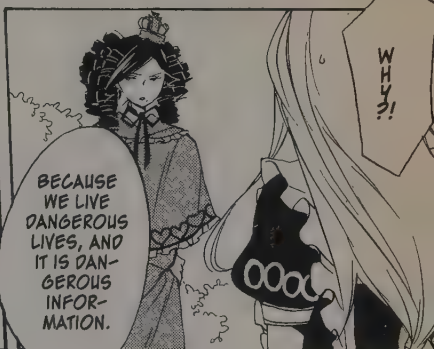


AFTER
VIVALDI WAS
MADE THE
QUEEN, I
WAS GIVEN
THE ROLE OF
THE HATTER.



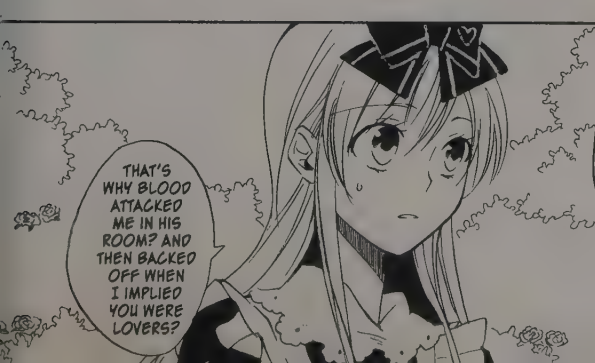
IF THE
WRONG
PERSON
FOUND OUT,
IT COULD
BECOME A
LIABILITY.

WE
DON'T
LIKE TO
TAKE
CHANCES.



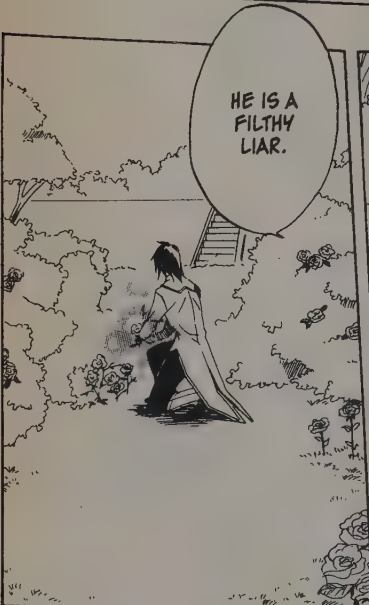
BECAUSE
WE LIVE
DANGEROUS
LIVES, AND
IT IS DAN-
GEROUS
INFORMA-
TION.

WHY
?!



THAT'S
WHY BLOOD
ATTACKED
ME IN HIS
ROOM? AND
THEN BACKED
OFF WHEN
I IMPLIED
YOU WERE
LOVERS?

THAT IS
WHY THE ONLY
PLACE WE MEET
AS SIBLINGS IS IN
THIS PROTECTED
ROSE GARDEN,
WHERE EVERYONE
IS FORBIDDEN
ENTRY.



HE IS A
FILTHY
LIAR.



NON-
SENSE!

IT IS
TERRIBLY
CLEAR THAT
BLOOD HAS
AFFECTION
FOR YOU.



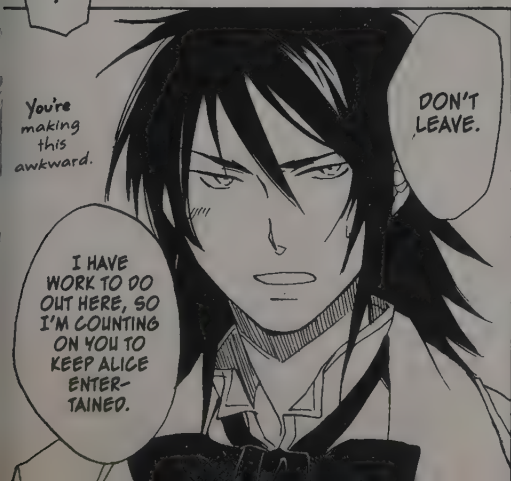
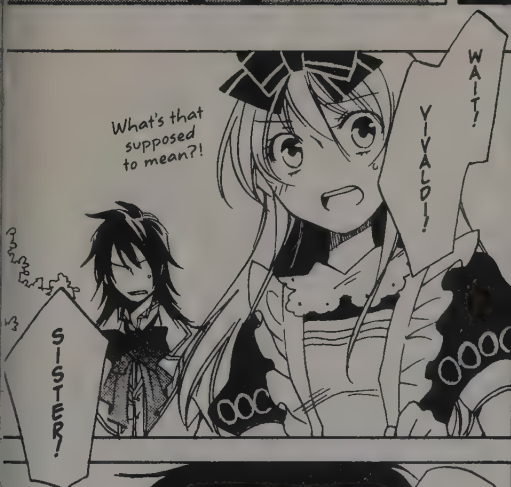
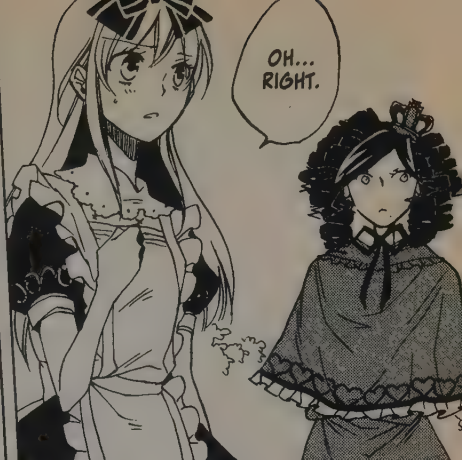
SORRY,
BUT I
DON'T
SEE IT.

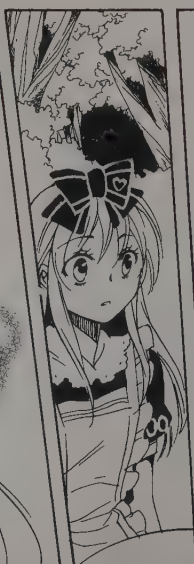
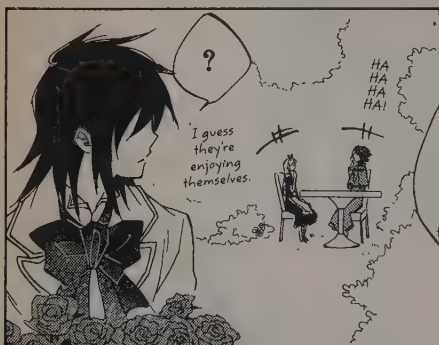
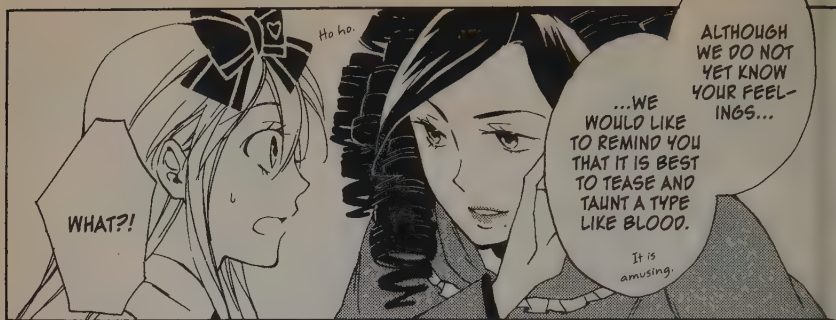
FEEL-
INGS?

I THINK
YOU'RE
READING
TOO MUCH
INTO THIS.

BLOOD
HAS NOT TOLD
YOU HIS TRUE
FEELINGS, WE
ASSUME?









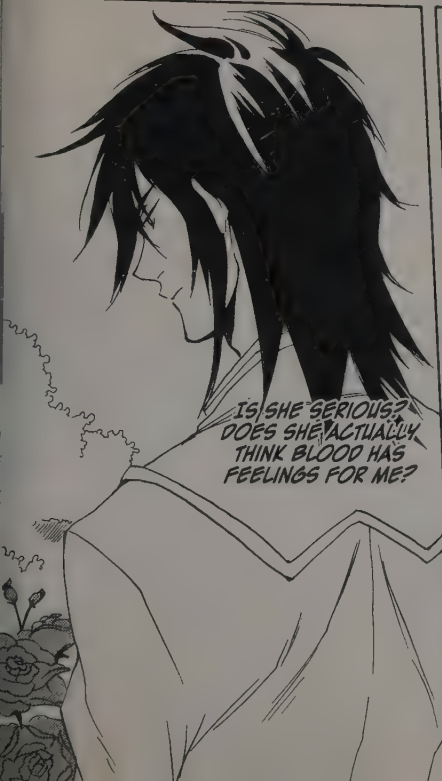
WE DO
NOT LIKE
TO REPEAT
OUR-
SELVES
...



...BUT
BLOOD HAS
BROUGHT YOU
TO THIS GARDEN.
HE PERSONALLY
TENDS TO THESE
BLOOMS AND
ONLY ALLOWS HIS
SISTER TO COME
NEAR THEM.

WE DO
NOT MIS-
INTERPRET
THESE
THINGS.

WE
KNOW
HIM VERY
WELL.

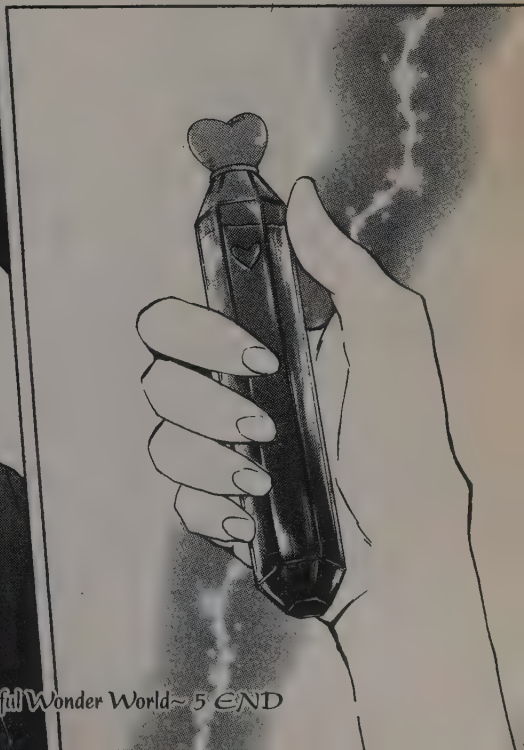
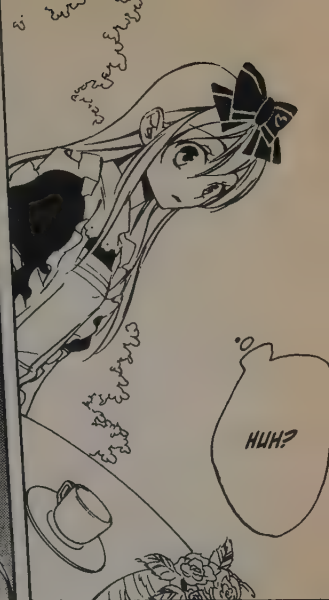


IS SHE SERIOUS?
DOES SHE ACTUALLY
THINK BLOOD HAS
FEELINGS FOR ME?



THIS DOES
NOT REQUIRE
PSYCHIC
POWERS.







??

Alice in the country of the heart
~ Wonderful Wonder World ~
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ハートの国のアリス

~ Wonderful Wonder World ~
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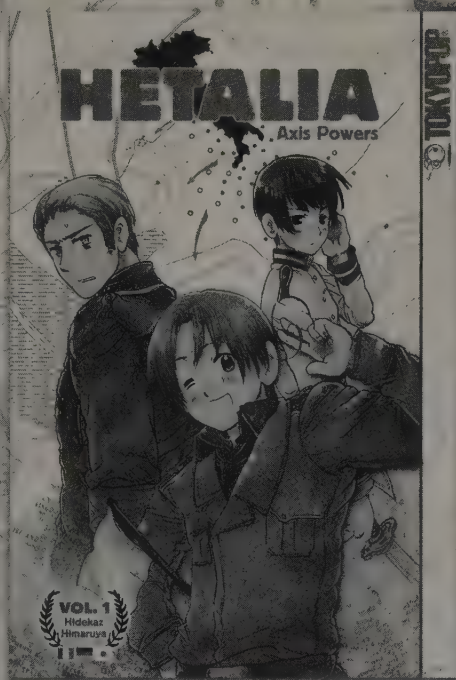


AXIS POWERS

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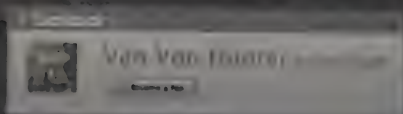
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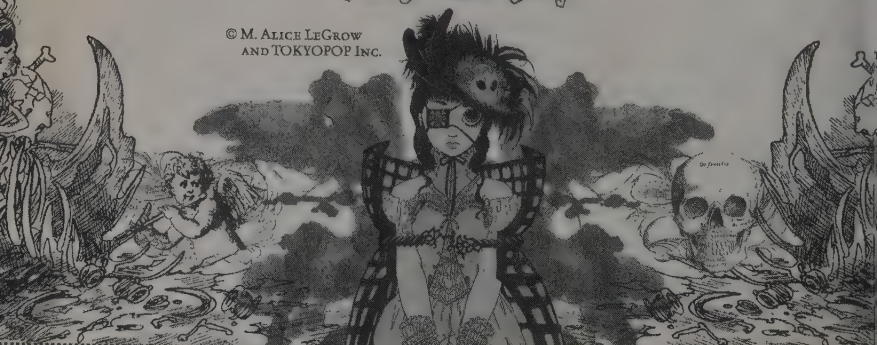
VOLUME 7

The final battle rages for the lives and souls of the inhabitants of Bizenghast, and no one is safe anymore. Shocking revelations of the town's dark history continue to emerge, and Dinah's struggle will go beyond the borders of the mausoleum...and into some of her worst nightmares...

PREVIEW AT WWW.TOKYOPOP.COM/NOONEISSAFE



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Love Cats? Love Ramen?

Then,

Kenji Sonishi's

Neko Ramen

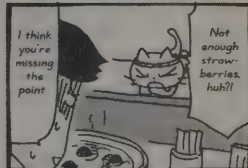
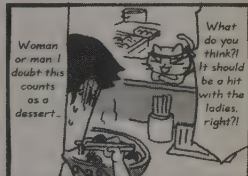
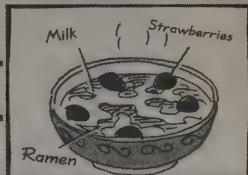
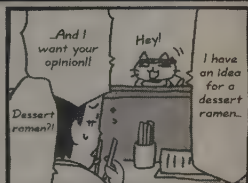
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just plain
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DEADMAN
WONDERLAND



[sv] JINSEI KATAOKA
KAZUMA KONDOU

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Portrait



Everyone in the world *has a* **secret...**



Mitsuru is an extreme masochist who finds great delight in brutal beatings. Nat-suhiko is an over-the-top narcissist who's one true love is his own beautiful reflection.

Can these two lost lambs ever hope to be normal? Find out in the new manga from the creator of *Gakuen Alice*!

From the creator of *Gakuen Alice*!

Maid Sama!

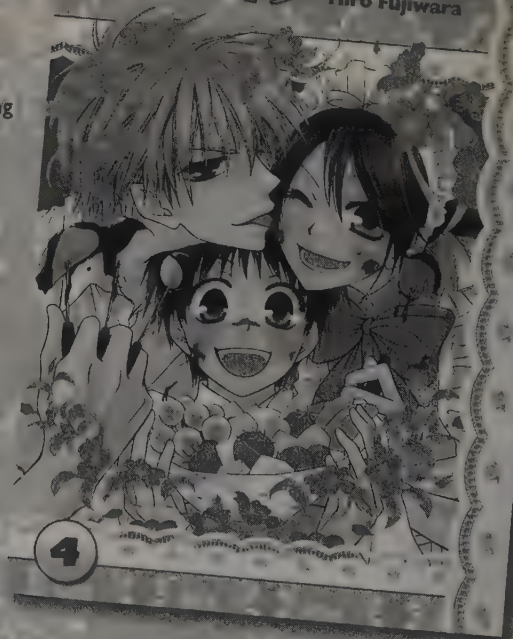
The class president has a little secret she's keeping from the sexy bad boy in school...

"It's hard to deny this guilty pleasure when it looks like it's having so much fun."

-About.com

The rogue hypnotist strikes again, this time planting the suggestion in Misaki that if she falls asleep, she'll wake up hating Usui! Well, hating him more than usual... So it's up to Usui to preserve their relationship (such as it is) by keeping Misaki awake as long as possible!

Maid Sama!
Hiro Fujiwara



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Dark secrets are revealed, and Ai must use all her strength and courage to face off against the new threat to Ai-Land. But will she ever see Kent again...?

"A very intriguing read that will satisfy old fans and create new fans, too."
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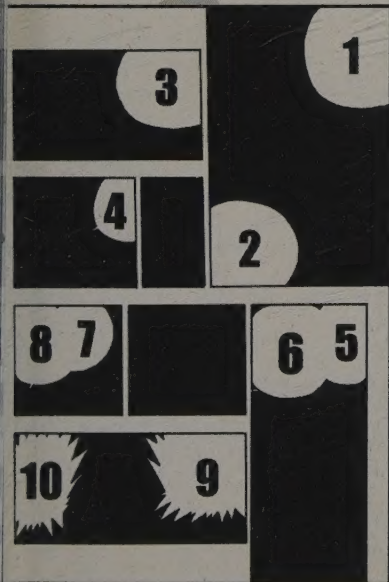




STOP!

**This is the back of the book.
You wouldn't want to spoil a great ending!**

This book is printed "manga-style," in the authentic Japanese right-to-left format. Since none of the artwork has been flipped or altered, readers get to experience the story just as the creator intended. You've been asking for it, so TOKYOPOP® delivered: authentic, hot-off-the-press, and far more fun!



DIRECTIONS

If this is your first time reading manga-style, here's a quick guide to help you understand how it works.

It's easy... just start in the top right panel and follow the numbers. Have fun, and look for more 100% authentic manga from TOKYOPOP®!



5 ♥

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